

## More Students Binge Drinking, Study Says

### Study Shows Abstinence on Rise as Well

By Efen Gutierrez  
STAFF REPORTER

At the same time more students in college are choosing to abstain from alcohol, an increasing percentage of their classmates are engaging in frequent binge drinking, according to a recent report of the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study. Henry Wechsler, the report's main author, also included wide-ranging recommendations to college administrators seeking to reduce binge drinking.

The report, the third in a series of reports by the School of Public Health, shows that 22.7 percent of college students in 1999 frequently binge drink, in contrast to 19.8 percent of college students in 1993. The number of abstainers in the population rose, from 15.4 percent in 1993 to 19.2 percent in 1999. The overall binge drinking rate in 1999 is roughly the same as the rate in 1993.

The report concluded that the most likely binge drinkers are white fraternity members who were binge drinkers in high school. Factors associated with those who do not binge drink include being African American or Asian, 24 years or older, or married. Those who did not engage in binge drinking in high school were also unlikely to binge drink in college.

Wechsler provides many explanations about why the binge drink-

ing rate has remained persistently high. One is that enough time hasn't passed between the initial and current study to notice any effects made by college administrator's policies. However, the report says that the increase in the number of people choosing to abstain shows that some policies may be working.

The report also points out a great polarization in the drinking behaviors at college. The survey shows that two of three fraternity and sorority students are binge drinkers, while one in three students living on campus live in alcohol-free dormitories. It also shows that 12.6 percent of respondents who did not live in alcohol-free housing wished to be placed in alcohol-free housing.

#### Report's recommendations

One of the Wechsler's recommendations is that colleges increase educational demands in terms of Friday classes and exams to reduce the amount the length of the weekend, thereby providing "full-time education for full-time tuition."

The report also suggests that colleges implement a "three strikes and you're out" policy and consider notifying parents of the heaviest student binge drinkers.

In addition, it calls for colleges to assure that students have available to them alcohol-free social and recreational activities "so that they have more to do than just

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## Repairs to Close EC, Random

### Fire Safety Upgrades Will Displace Residents During Summer

By Laura McGrath Moulton  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Random Hall and East Campus will be closed for the summer while the first stage of a \$32 million upgrade of fire alarm systems is completed.

Karen A. Nilsson, associate director for operations for housing, said that the Institute has made a commitment to upgrade life safety systems across campus. East Campus and Random, two of the oldest buildings in the housing system, were identified as the most pressing concerns.

The repairs are not the result of code violations, Nilsson said. Residents "meet and exceed codes but [the Institute] doesn't feel that is sufficient." The new state of the art systems at East Campus and Random will maintain MIT's life safety at the "highest level of any college in the country."

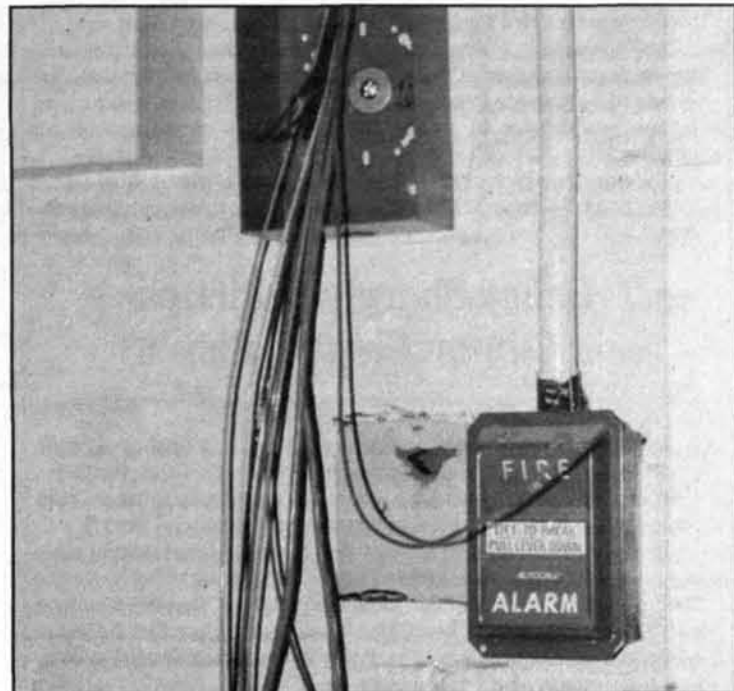
The price tag for the campus-wide upgrade project is \$32 million. The East Campus system installation is projected to cost \$400,000, Nilsson said. Random Hall's upgrades will cost MIT \$300,000.

Along with fire system upgrades, East Campus' electrical system will be renovated. Each room will receive two new, grounded outlets, Nilsson said.

#### Summer housing will be limited

Nilsson said that her office had identified space in the housing system for the summer residents of both East Campus and Random as well as for attendees of the Research Science Institute, a summer program for high school students housed at East Campus.

Manager of Undergraduate Residential Services Phillip M. Bernard said his office does not have a firm plan for housing stu-



JAMES SNYDER—THE TECH

East Campus' fire alarms received a temporary upgrade last November intended to improve the audibility of alarms. A full upgrade of EC's fire system is scheduled for this summer.

dents over the summer.

"When we closed Baker, we had to limit how many students could stay on campus, and that will probably happen again," Bernard said. "Summer housing is not guaranteed."

However, Bernard said that East Campus and Random Hall residents would have as good a chance of getting summer housing as residents of the other dormitories.

The repairs should not interfere with orientation, said Bernard. "The time table for the repairs has it done in time for orientation."

#### Mixed reactions at East Campus

Students expressed concern

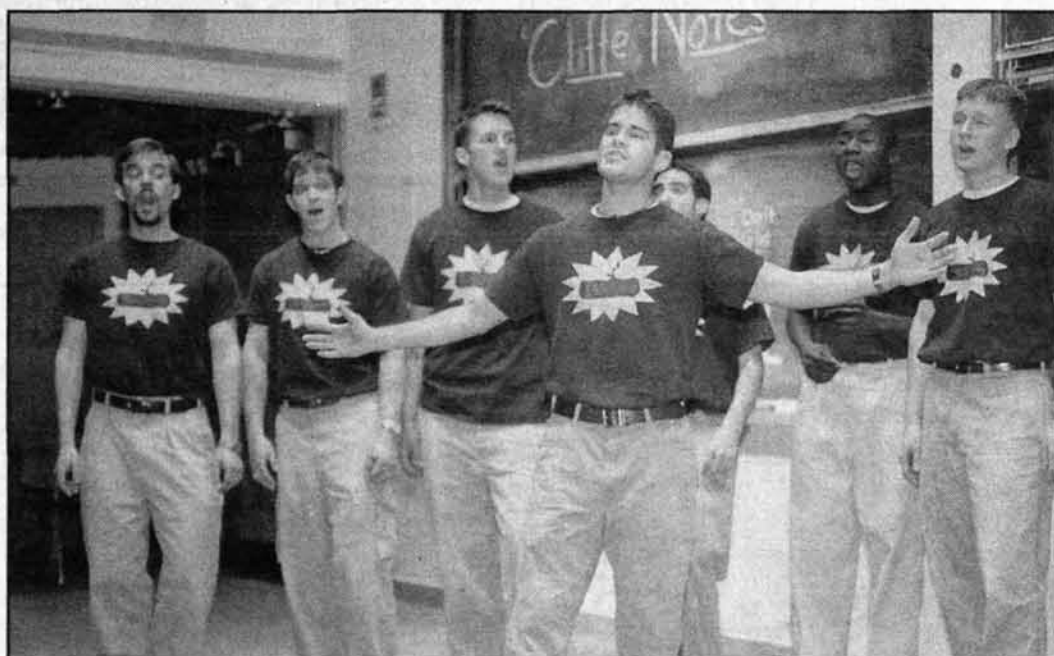
about the repair schedule.

"People aren't terribly happy," said Brandy L. Evans '02, president of East Campus. She characterized the situation as a repeat of the "big scare" about housing last summer, when spaces were tight due to construction on Baker House.

Jen Frank, East Campus resident, DormCon president, and former East Campus president, welcomed the planned repairs, which she said students have been requesting for some time.

"If there are any dorms on campus that need [repairs], it's these

Repairs, Page 18



WENDY GU—THE TECH

Jonathan Coe '02 takes center stage during Sunday's Logarithms concert, which also featured guest groups No Strings Attached from the University of Illinois and the 'Cliffe Notes of Harvard University.

## Librarian Held in Rape

### MIT Employee Allegedly Raped 12-year-old

By Frank Dabek  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

MIT employee Mark Belson has been charged with the rape of a 12-year-old boy.

Belson pleaded innocent to the charge of rape of a child in Dorchester District Court on Tuesday. He remains in custody pending a bail of \$50,000 cash.

The rape allegedly occurred in a bathroom at the University of Massachusetts-Boston around 6 p.m. on Monday according to an Associated Press report.

Belson, 52, is senior library assistant and has worked for MIT for 20 years.

James Borghesani, a spokesman for the Suffolk County district attorney's office, said that Belson has no previous record but that he was issued a trespass warning at the UMass-Boston campus several years ago.

Borghesani did not reveal if violence was involved in the case or if the charge was based only on the age of the victim. "The charge is rape," he said.

The *Boston Herald* reported yesterday that the bathroom where the assault occurred was listed on a website for gay men looking for sexual partners.

The site contains an entry for the Science Building at UMass-Boston: "Cruisy toilet on second floor. 'Weekends especially busy.'" An anonymous report on the same site says, "The cruise bathrooms have been filling up with mostly old men. I would say about 98% of them seem to be over 50. Many of these old men have become pretty blatant and are not only scaring off the young gay crowd but have been chasing off a lot of scared straight

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"A Midsummer Night's Dream" plays this weekend.  
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# WORLD & NATION

## Much at Stake as Taiwan Heads for Polls

NEWSDAY

When Taiwan's voters go to the polls Saturday to select their next president, the wary peace between the island and mainland China will be at stake, as well as prospects for China's entry into the World Trade Organization, the state of relations between the United States and China, and even the American presidential contest itself.

In only its second presidential election since truncating itself from the communist mainland in 1949, Taiwan's balloting is taking place under a darkening cloud of threats from Beijing, which has displayed a growing alarm and anger at the island's steady march toward independence. Beijing insists that Taiwan is an integral part of China, a proposition regarded somewhat dubiously on the island itself.

On Wednesday, China's prime minister Zhu Rongji, his voice rising in anger and shaking his fist, told reporters in Beijing that "the people of Taiwan are standing at a very critical historical juncture, so let me give advice to all the people of Taiwan: do not act on impulse."

"We must make it crystal clear," he said. "No matter who comes to power in Taiwan, Taiwan will never be allowed to be independent."

## DeLay Sharply Criticizes Clinton China Policy

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas, launched a broad attack Thursday on the Clinton administration's foreign policy, charging that it lacks coherence, ignores "core American values," and serves up "an inedible ... stew of appeasement and social work."

In the wake of Chinese threats over Saturday's presidential election in Taiwan, DeLay urged the administration to stand up to the "bullies" in Beijing, scrap the "diplomatic fiction" that the mainland and Taiwan are parts of "one China," and "make clear that threats to a free, democratic people will be met with the force required to deter and, if necessary, confront aggression."

Speaking at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington think-tank, DeLay demonstrated the highly partisan style he typically wields on domestic policy. The Republican lawmaker denounced U.S. involvement in Kosovo, where he said neither side shared American values, and compared U.S. policy toward Taiwan to the late British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's policy toward Czechoslovakia before it was overrun by Nazi forces in 1939.

"Having learned nothing from the folly of Munich, the Clinton administration has embraced a level of appeasement that would have embarrassed Neville Chamberlain," he said.

## Bush Chastises Gore on IRS

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

Texas Gov. George W. Bush chastised Vice President Al Gore Thursday for attempts by Gore staffers to obtain information from the IRS about an unnamed labor union and said the 1997 episode shows the need for "a fresh start" at the White House.

Seeking to turn the issue to his political advantage, Bush demanded a public explanation from Gore about the incident, which he said raises "serious ethical questions." The episode was disclosed by congressional investigators for the Joint Committee on Taxation earlier this week as part of a three-year investigation involving tax-exempt organizations.

The committee's chief of staff, Lindy L. Paull, said the Gore staffers were seeking confidential "taxpayer information" that is protected by law. Gore's office defended the contacts as properly authorized and said the staffers were conducting a "simple status check."

# Gay Couples Recieve Right To 'Civil Unions' in Vermont

By Hanna Rosin and Pamela Ferdinand

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

In the first significant breakthrough for advocates of gay marriage, the Vermont House Thursday approved historic legislation allowing gay couples to form "civil unions" that carry many of the benefits and responsibilities of traditional marriages.

The bill stops just short of legalizing gay marriage, instead setting up a network of state benefits for gay couples, covering everything from hospital visits to inheritance rights to state taxes. Still, if it becomes law as expected, Vermont will have gone much further than any state in sanctioning same-sex unions.

The bill is a response to a Vermont Supreme Court ruling in December that found that gay and lesbian couples were being unconstitutionally denied the benefits of marriage. But the high court left it up to the legislature to decide whether to allow gay marriages or create some kind of domestic partnership instead.

The Vermont House chose a version closer to the latter, voting 75 to

69 Thursday to approve the bill. Hundreds lined the galleries of the House chamber to watch the debates Thursday, with supporters attaching pink stickers to their lapels. Opponents wore white.

The Senate is expected to approve the measure by the end of April, and Democratic Gov. Howard Dean has said he would sign it if it does not change significantly.

The new gay civil unions are likely to rekindle what has become one of the most sensitive debates in America. In anticipation that gay marriage measures would take hold, more than 30 states have already passed the Defense of Marriage Act, defining marriage as between a man and a woman, and allowing states not to recognize same-sex marriages performed elsewhere. It is still unclear whether those laws would preclude civil unions established in Vermont.

Under the bill passed Thursday, gay and lesbian partners may apply for a license from a town clerk and get their civil union certified by a justice of the peace, a judge or a clergyman.

Partners in a civil union would be eligible for 300 state benefits given to married couples covering

every phase of life. They could transfer property, make medical decisions for each other, inherit estates and oversee one another's burials. Such couples could also file a joint state income tax return.

The federal government still would not recognize such unions with regard to such things as immigration rights, Social Security benefits and federal taxes.

Vermont gays would also be subject to burdens similar to those of married couples.

Partners who want to end their civil union would have to go through a dissolution proceeding in family court, similar to divorce proceedings. They would also assume each other's debts.

Although the bill comes close to recognizing gay marriage, lawmakers reserved the term "marriage" for the union of a man and a woman, adopting an amendment making that clear.

In the months since the state Supreme Court decision, many Vermont towns have held heated debates on the proposal.

Gay rights advocates were elated by the decision, describing it as a distant hope they never quite expected would happen.

# Investors Flock to Blue Chips As Dow Goes Up Nearly 500

By Sharon Walsh

THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK

Wall Street had one of its grandest days ever Thursday as investors stormed into the old, stalwart blue-chip stocks that had been out of favor for months, driving the Dow Jones industrial average up nearly 500 points.

The rising tide of the Dow lifted all of the market's sectors, smashing the New York Stock Exchange's record for trading volume, bringing the high-tech stocks of the Nasdaq index charging back from a three-day slump and elevating the S&P 500 index to within 100 points of its peak.

"If you owned a stock that went down today, you need a new bro-

ker," said Henry Cavanna, the senior equity portfolio manager at JPMorgan Investment Management.

The powerful move in the market illustrated how it is being pushed and pulled by huge swings in investor psychology, which Thursday found investors running to blue chips.

Still, every sector of the market benefitted: Financial stocks, retail stocks, consumer stocks, insurance, industrial companies, even energy companies were lifted by the buying pressure in the old-economy stocks that had been left for dead. Technology stocks — from start-up dot coms to old-style IBM and Intel — also enjoyed the ride.

The Dow closed up 499.19 points, or 4.9 percent, at 10,630.60,

wiping out the previous record point gain of 380.53 on Sept. 8, 1998. The Nasdaq composite index closed up 134.77, or 2.9 percent, at 4,717.39, after being down as much as 127 points early in the day.

Awe-struck market veterans were at a loss to explain the sudden surge as the result of any particular event.

There was no surprising announcement that made the public believe that General Electric was suddenly going to sell more light bulbs or Procter & Gamble more soap. Banks didn't merge. There were no startling discoveries in technology or a cure for the common cold. Alan Greenspan didn't suddenly change his stance on interest rates.

# WEATHER

## Last Blast of Winter?

By Bill Ramstrom  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

After a beautiful day yesterday with a high of 71°F in Boston, today we are facing the possibility of accumulating snow. While Boston and coastal areas will likely have small accumulations of perhaps an inch or so (especially on grassy areas), interior and northern sections of New England could receive more than half a foot of snow. This will provide a nice coating of fresh natural snow for skiers heading north this weekend.

Fortunately, things should clear out by early afternoon, making way for a sunny but cold weekend. A rapidly strengthening storm system is moving up along the East Coast, pulling sharply colder air southward from Canada and most likely delaying a number of Spring Break trips. The cold spell will be short-lived, however, with warmer temperatures returning by Sunday, though not as pleasant as Thursday's.

### Weekend Outlook

**Today:** Flurries afternoon, then breaking clouds. High 34°F (1°C).

**Tonight:** Clearing and cold. Windy. Low 22°F (-5°C).

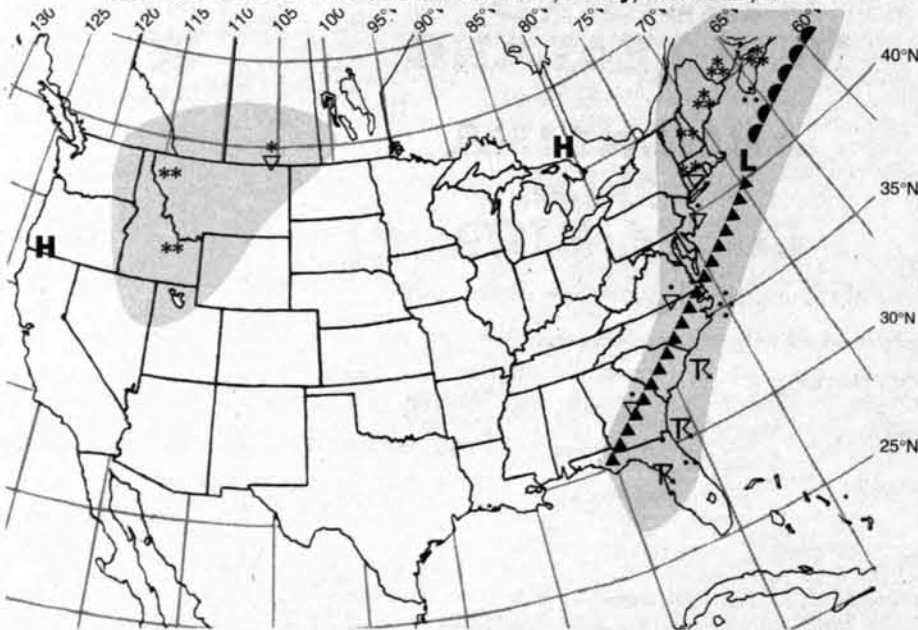
**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, cold. High 36°F (2°C).

**Sunday:** Cool, less wind. High 46°F (8°C).

### Spring Break Forecasts (Sunday)

Cancun, Mexico	Sunny	High 86°F (30°C), Low 68°F (20°C)
Nassau, Bahamas	Some sun	High 80°F (26°C), Low 65°F (18°C)
Panama City, FL	Rain	High 68°F (20°C), Low 50°F (10°C)
Vail, CO	Sunny	High 55°F (12°C), Low 25°F (-4°C)

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, March 17, 2000



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
<b>H</b> High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow *	Fog
<b>L</b> Low Pressure	- - - Warm Front	Showsers ∇	Thunderstorm
<b>S</b> Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	Light *	Haze
	▲▲▲ Stationary Front	Moderate **	
		Heavy ***	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech



# Independent Counsel: Filegate Prosecutions Are Unwarranted

By Robert L. Jackson

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

In the first of several reports that will sum up the nearly 6-year-old Whitewater investigation, independent counsel Robert W. Ray reported Thursday that his prosecutors found no criminal wrongdoing when White House officials obtained hundreds of FBI personnel files early in the Clinton administration.

The furor over confidential files of mainly Republican appointees falling into the hands of Clinton aides erupted in 1996 and led to investigations by Republican-led committees of the House and Senate.

FBI Director Louis J. Freeh apologized for the security breach and vowed that it would never happen again. In that highly charged atmosphere, then-independent coun-

sel Kenneth W. Starr began an inquiry into whether any criminal statutes had been violated and outsiders began calling the case "Filegate."

Ray, a top deputy who succeeded Starr in October, said that a thorough investigation by his office had determined that "no prosecutions were warranted."

The White House told congressional committees that the episode was a bureaucratic blunder by lower-level aides who were trying to update White House security clearances from previous Republican administrations.

Although Ray's report, by law, remains under seal until released by a supervisory panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, his office issued a public statement that read in part:

"The independent counsel deter-

mined that there was no substantial and credible evidence that any senior White House official, or first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, was involved in seeking confidential FBI background reports of former White House staff from the prior administrations of President Bush and President Reagan."

Ray said that his office did not investigate alleged violations of the federal Privacy Act of 1974 "because such offenses are excluded from the jurisdiction of an independent counsel." He added that "the matter is now closed."

White House spokesman Jim Kennedy said the findings come as no surprise. Referring to other reports that will follow in coming months, Kennedy added: "We have made clear our desire to have all this finished as promptly as possible and in accordance with the statutes."

# Bush Irks McCain Backers with Comments Belittling Candidacy

By Eric Slater and James Gerstenzang

LOS ANGELES TIMES

ST. CHARLES, ILL.

Instead of healing wounds left from the combative Republican primary, John McCain supporters said Thursday that George W. Bush is continuing to stir up animosity that could jeopardize his chance of winning the independent voters McCain drew in record numbers.

The latest turmoil developed when Bush suggested in a published interview that McCain's insurgent candidacy had a minimal effect on the Republican Party and that he was not influenced by any of the senator's positions.

The comments to The New York Times irked Republicans from Capitol Hill to the McCain campaign,

where advisers say the senator from Arizona is becoming less and less likely to endorse Bush.

"I'm extremely disappointed," said Rep. Peter T. King, R-N.Y., a McCain backer. "Either (Bush) is extremely arrogant or he's politically tone-deaf. He really believes that all the balloons flying and all the confetti falling means he doesn't need anybody's help. And he does."

McCain voters "are absolutely essential if we're going to win the election," King added. Before "suspending" his campaign following losses in the March 7 "Super Tuesday" primaries, McCain invigorated independent-minded voters and generated record turnouts in nine contests. Experts attributed the performance in large part to McCain's messages of campaign finance

reform and limiting the influence of special interests on the federal government.

McCain's centrist support was so strong, experts say his supporters could determine the outcome of the general election in November.

While Gore has been openly and increasingly invoking the lessons and themes of the McCain campaign, Bush has been more circumspect, both in his praise of the man and his ideas. At the same time, Bush staffers have been meeting quietly with McCain advisers seeking a reconciliation.

"What all of us around both these guys are saying is (that) you have to be sensitive about what you say while we try to bring this together," said Washington lobbyist Vin Webber.

## Russia Says It Is Making Progress In Apartment Bombing

LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW

Six months after nighttime bombs killed more than 300 sleeping Russians, security officials insisted Thursday that a ring of Chechen terrorists is to blame and that they are making progress in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

Investigators from the Federal Security Service, or FSB, the main successor to the KGB, staged a rare news conference and distributed photos of suspects they believe set off the bombs in September. The attacks triggered Moscow's fierce offensive to regain control of Chechnya, a rebel Russian republic.

The investigators identified six men as taking part in the bombings — one who is in custody and five others for whom they have issued international arrest warrants. But the FSB officials acknowledged that, although they believe these men carried out the bombings, they have yet to determine who ordered the attacks.

"I believe we will eventually prove with the help of the evidence that we are accumulating that everything emanated from a single center, a single organizer," said Nikolai Sapozhkov, deputy chief of investigations.

The four apartment-building bombings — two in Moscow and two in southern Russia — set off a wave of panic throughout the country. Government officials immediately blamed Chechens, and within days began a furious assault in the republic.

## New Evidence May Point the Way To Curing Forms of Blindness

NEWSDAY

CANADA

Important new evidence that the most common forms of blindness may yet be overcome by manipulating living cells was reported Thursday by a research team in Canada.

Based on experiments using cells from mouse, cow and human eyes, Derek van der Kooy and six colleagues announced that the eye already contains the immature cells needed to repair or replace a damaged retina.

Their discovery is a major surprise, because such stem cells were thought to exist only in the eyes of amphibians and fish, not in mammals. The research team headed by van der Kooy induced these stem cells to grow in laboratory dishes and produce all of the various cells needed in the retina.

Stem cells are important and interesting because they have the ability to grow and form various kinds of new tissues. In bone marrow, for example, stem cells produce a vast array of white blood cells for the immune system, as well as the oxygen-carrying red blood cells. By surprise, stem cells were also recently found in brain tissue.

In the new research, the stem cells the Canadian team found were hidden in a part of the eye called the pigmented ciliary margin. Only one in 500 of the cells found there are stem cells, but they have the ability to grow very rapidly.

"We were able to dissect out a small region of the adult eye, from the pigmented ciliary margin, put them in a dish, and they started to divide," van der Kooy explained.

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- 2) It gives us an excuse to whisper in public.

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## A Computing Truce

In response to the recent letters about Athena and Windows:

Why can't we all just get along? Windows NT (or 9x) is a good operating system for desktop computers. Information Systems even recommends it for use on desktop PCs, but it is not ideal for a large distributed computing environment such as the one we have at MIT. An important feature of a large computing environment is standardization. If you sit down at a SPARCstation 4 in the E51 Athena Cluster, you know that you can expect everything to be exactly the same as if you sat down at a SPARCstation 4 in the W20 cluster. Currently, this cannot be achieved with Windows NT. This may change with the advances made by the Pismere project and with the adoption of Windows 2000, but currently, this is not the case.

Sure, Athena does things a little differently. You might have to learn complex three- and four-letter words like "inc," "comp," and "repl" in order to send mail on Athena. So what? This is MIT. If you can master differential equations, surely adding a few short commands to your vocabulary shouldn't tax your brain too much. There are even graphical mail

clients on Athena, so you don't need to learn to type commands — you can just click buttons. No, they don't have a little paperclip telling you what to do, but most people have learned to use them despite that shortcoming.

What people fail to realize is that in a large computing environment, you can't simply throw new applications and services at the users the second they become available. Extensive testing is required to ensure that the applications for users, and that those people who provide support to the users know exactly what support to provide. It takes time to upgrade services (like e-mail) without denying service to the campus during the upgrade.

Athena is changing for the better. IMAP mail servers are already in place, and testing is underway to determine how best to provide IMAP services to the community. What does this mean for you? No more annoying Kerberos errors when you use Eudora to check your mail. People will probably even be able to use Outlook. New applications are being added to Athena all the time. The much-hyped GNOME environment is available for the most part, and StarOffice has been added recently. StarOffice is an application suite that provides most of the features provided by MS Office and even has a somewhat familiar user

interface. It's even available free for personal use on the Windows and Linux platforms. So yes, Virginia, you can type your paper on Windows, and then use the same application on Athena to edit it later.

I encourage people not to turn their backs on Athena and its related services — they are being improved frequently. You can teach an old dog new tricks, it just takes time.

Jonathan Reed '01

## Windows Can Work

As Jim Paris points out ["AFS Insecure," March 14], AFS is indeed painfully insecure. However, that is not the only flaw in Kyle Rose's argument ["Windows 'Unreliable,' Doesn't Support AFS," March 10]. The centerpiece of his assertion that Windows should not be used on MIT workstations is that Windows does not support AFS. This is patently untrue; a fine implementation is available from Transarc, the same company that MIT licenses AFS from for all other systems. (In fact, MIT has been "in discussion" with them about a license for NT for years, but at this point that is obviously never going to be completed.)

Robert J. Ragno G



"Here's the smartest gun we sell . . . It doesn't fire at all."

## Opinion Policy

**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, news editors, and opinion editors.

**Dissents** are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

**Columns and editorial cartoons** are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

**Letters to the editor** are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and may be sent to [letters@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:letters@the-tech.mit.edu). Hard copy submissions may be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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# A More Democratic And Free Iran

Guest Column  
Sina Kevin Nazemi

While the eyes of the American people have been focused on the presidential primary races, a far more pivotal election has gone on half a world away. On February 18th the voters of Iran took part in parliamentary elections, where they overwhelmingly ousted the traditional hardliners in favor of moderate reformers who have promised more political and social freedoms and have expressed interest in reestablishing ties with other countries, including the United States.

The voters of Iran, nearly eighty percent of whom participated in the election, have given the reformers a clear majority in the parliament. The vote marks a continuation of change towards a more democratized form of Islamic rule in Iran. In a landslide election in 1997, the voters of Iran elected current reform-minded President Mohammad Khatami, who has called for relations with other countries, democratic reforms, and human rights. Furthermore, Khatami has allowed the Iranian press more freedoms and put on trial right-wing vigilantes who under the old system saw themselves as above the law.

Since U.S.-Iran relations were severed after the 1979 Iranian Revolution, the United States has placed economic sanctions on Iran prohibiting any economic relationship between Iran and U.S. companies and prohibiting export of Iranian goods to the United States.

I had the opportunity to visit Iran for the first time in nine years during IAP. The Iranian people are religious and proud of their culture, yet they are very receptive to outside influences. My cousins danced to the latest American hits sporting their Polo shirts with the same fervor as revelers at MIT fraternity parties. From doctors to businessmen to taxi drivers, people talked about their desire to reestablish direct economic and cultural exchanges with the West. Even the very conservative have become at the very least tolerant of Western influences.

While the masses support change, a group of powerful conservatives, led by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, remains as a roadblock. The conservatives want strict social regulations and limited interaction with foreign nations. These conservatives control Iran's armed forces and public broadcasting. They also dominate the Guardian Council, which has the ability to filter candidates running for office and legislation passed by the parliament. The conservatives blame current economic hardships on the economic sanctions imposed by America and use the issue to change the subject when talk of internal reformation is brought up and to rally their troops. But even the conservatives have not been able to stand up completely against the move for change. Given the overwhelming number of reformists candidates running for parliament in the last election, the Guardian Council only restricted about 10 percent of candidates running for office, compared to the large percentages it had restricted in previous elections.

President Clinton has to decide today whether to renew economic sanctions against Iran. President Clinton should take a prudent step and relax the sanctions by allowing Iran to export pistachios and rugs, two of Iran's largest exports. This good will gesture will not only pave the way for future American access to a geopolitically-strategic nation that is the second-leading exporter of oil, but it will also take away the America-bashing fuel that the conservatives use to rally their supporters and give reason for their supporters to instead support the reformers. The move can also serve as a precedent-setting case showing that America supports and wants democracies in the Middle East. Furthermore, the United States can use its amicable relationship with Iran to address concerns with Iran's alleged support of terrorist groups, Iran's military arsenal program, and Iran's role in the Middle East process.

A small step by the Clinton Administration can go a long way and may lead to normalized relations with a country whose people have expressed a deep and overwhelming desire for change through the ballot box.

Sina Kevin Nazemi is a member of the Class of 2003.

# A Problem Set for the Administration

Student Complaints,  
Community Relations  
Deserve Attention

Michael J. Ring

Spring break is finally upon us, but this being MIT, few if any of us actually get a chance to take a real rest.

This goes for the administration as well as the students. With a seemingly endless string of bad decisions and crises emerging over the past month, student confidence in the administration is reaching another low, and the administration should be working diligently over the break to find ways to regain student support. Meanwhile, several problems with the city need a speedy resolution as well.

In light of this background, I humbly propose we, the students of MIT, assign our administration a problem set to be done over the spring vacation (see ADM.001 at right).

MIT stands at a crossroads in both relations with students and with the city of Cambridge. Recent poorly reasoned administra-

*Fill in the blanks: The land court appeal will take \_\_ months, allowing the new undergraduate dormitory will be completed in 200\_. Inform FSILG leaders of your best answer so they may plan accordingly.*

tion decisions have soured student relations, while anti-development forces and a more aggressive CLC are straining relations with the city. The Institute needs to improve both situations quickly before the strains grow even further. Spring break, when many students leave and most divert at least some of their attention to more leisurely pursuits, is the perfect opportunity for the administration to address these questions.

And the answers are best given sooner rather than later. Neither the students nor the city will smile upon tardy answers.

Kris Schnee

Last Sunday in Vatican City, Pope John Paul II took a historic step towards a "purification of memory" in the reform of the Roman Catholic Church. The 79-year old pontiff gave a public address in which he apologized for the historic sins of Christians everywhere, mentioning seven categories of wrongs committed in the Church's nearly 2000-year history. Among others, he confessed sins "committed in the service of truth," and against "the rights of peoples," "the dignity of women and the unity of the human race," and "the fundamental rights of the person."

The Papal event was a fascinating one because of the significance of the Pope's words and their surprising implications. He spoke out against intolerance against other religions, resolving "to seek and promote truth in the gentleness of charity," instead of using violence to enforce belief. (Deuteronomy 13) He condemned the times when people "have violated the rights of ethnic groups and peoples, and shown contempt for their cultures and religious traditions." (Deuteronomy 7) He denounced the historic mistreatment of women, declaring "the equality of [God's] sons and daughters." (Exodus 21:7) On all of these issues, John Paul has adopted a system of morality based on human wants and needs instead of divine authority.

E. O. Wilson defined "transcendentalist" ethics as a moral system based on the belief that there are moral absolutes in the world — that some acts are inherently morally right or wrong. Belief in any God is a separate issue, Wilson said. John Paul, remaining true to his Catholic roots, has established himself as a transcendentalist, but in a way that goes beyond the traditional thou-shalts and thou-shalt-nots. His ceremony spoke of *rights*, a concept drawn from the

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Course ADM.001

How to Run a University and Maintain Good Student and Community Relations

## PART I: INTERNAL AFFAIRS

1) Assess your long-term stratagem to relocate fraternity chapters to the City of Cambridge in light of the souring political attitude toward FSILGs in this city. Discuss not only the wisdom of moving Boston chapters to Cambridge but also consider the prospects of survival for FSILG chapters already located here.

A complete answer must explain actions taken by the Cambridge License Commission this month, where Alpha Tau Omega and Kappa Sigma met heavy suspensions. Recall that the latter was nearly closed entirely; only a plea to the CLC for mercy saved Kappa Sigma.

Given the current political climate, predict the punishments that two Cambridge fraternities, Theta Delta Chi and Kappa Sigma, will receive when they face disciplinary hearings before the CLC upon return from Spring Break.

2) Assuming the survival of all Cambridge fraternities as locations for lodging, discuss their role in campus social life in the wake of recent CLC actions. The license commission will begin strident enforcement of a prohibition of more than 50 non-residents at fraternity gatherings.

State whether you accept that fraternity social life in Cambridge is dead, and whether you are willing to weather extreme adverse reaction from the student body because of this acquiescence. Otherwise, formulate a plan of action for negotiating with the CLC for the return of fraternity social life to Cambridge.

3) Review the history of Steer Roast, paying special attention to the solid safety record of the event and its popularity among the student body. Evaluate in light of these considerations the wisdom of your threats to gut the event. Devise tactics which will allow the event to continue at its current location with all its current festivities.

4) Using your answers from 1), 2), and 3), determine whether the direction in which you are leading the community and its campus life is positive or negative. Assess whether the threatened loss of Steer Roast and the Cambridge fraternity parties will sterilize social life on this campus. Determine the extent to which the MIT community spirit is imperiled by these actions, and ask yourself if the destruction of that spirit is what you mean to accomplish through these actions.

5) Assess the popularity of the decision to include a mandatory athletics fee in the tuition in light of strong student resistance to raising the price of an athletics card. Determine whether the compulsory charge is fair given the current state of MIT facilities and the decision of many students not to use the facilities. Explain why you have decided to squeeze yet more money out of students facing astronomical tuition bills when the Institute is sitting on billions in endowment and raising \$1.5 billion more through a capital campaign, some of which is ostensibly to be spent to support student life.

Special addendum for Rosalind Williams: define the word "fee."

## PART II: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

6) Fill in the blanks: The land court appeal will take \_\_ months, allowing the new undergraduate dormitory will be completed in 200\_. Inform FSILG leaders of your best answer so they may plan accordingly.

7) Determine all the abutters to all building projects over 50,000 square feet. Most importantly, remember to notify them of community meetings.

8) Sum your political capital with city government, local businesses, and neighborhood residents. (Hint: if the sum is positive, you need to rework the calculation). Devise a strategy for improving relations with these groups.

Specifically, answer whether the Institute is prepared to accept the mayor's challenges to MIT. Evaluate your level of recruitment of Cambridge residents to serve as MIT employees and adjust accordingly. Determine whether the Institute is ready to play a larger role in the Cambridge public schools, particularly in the administration of a vocational technical program. If not, find another path through which to kiss Mayor Galluccio's rear end.

9) Estimate the amount of payment the city will demand as the in lieu of tax agreement comes up for renewal. (Hint: if your estimate is lower than the current level of payment, rework your estimate). Come up with a strategy to hold this figure as low as possible.

10) Define each of the following terms and explain how MIT will continue its program of expansion in the face of these influences: IPOP, downzoning, Larkin Petition.

# John Paul's Historic Apology

## Acknowledgement of Sins Important in Modernizing the Church

Enlightenment tradition of Locke and Jefferson. Rights are not commandments, but are held to be fundamental properties of human lives.

No person may violate another's rights without being in some way immoral, transcendentalism holds; the Pope subscribes to this doctrine by declaring his belief in fundamental human rights. In this way John Paul is on the same page with the Declaration of Independence and its statement "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights."

Sunday's declaration was not the first time John Paul has taken a stance on transcendentalism. "How often have I had occasion to speak of the fundamental and inalienable rights of man, even before the Assembly of the United Nations," he remarked in 1983, speaking to members of the World Medical Association. His words showed explicitly that he considered rights absolute: "The rights to which one refers are not, in the first place, those which are recognized by the changing legislations of civil society, but they are rooted in fundamental principles, in the moral law which is based on being itself and which is immutable."

He praised the Hippocratic model of medical ethics, because of "the value it attaches to the human person who is a subject of rights and of duties, and never an object to be used for other ends, not even some self-styled social good."

The way John Paul has repeatedly spoken of rights indicates that he believes it wrong to kill a human, not because a God said "thou shalt not," but because a human has a right to life. This is major shift in attitudes from the way morality was handled during, say, the Crusades. Nor is John Paul alone in this shift. It is part of a greater change in attitudes that has taken place over centuries in our society — a movement towards taking responsibility for the

consequences of our own actions, and looking to ourselves for the solutions to our problems. Slavery, for instance, was once accepted as divinely ordained, and yet church groups were among the most outspoken advocates of abolition in the nineteenth century. Martin Luther King used his religion in the fight for civil rights. In each of these cases, the old moral principles were revised and reinterpreted in light of an evolving belief in human rights. John Paul's apology was another step in this most admirable shift in society.

The same Pope who sought reconciliation with Lutherans, met with Orthodox and Muslim leaders, and acknowledged the reality of evolution, has taken one more step forward. By acknowledging not only broad categories of sins meant to include the Crusades and other actions, but also the Church doctrine which has made these acts acceptable throughout centuries, John Paul has moved still more towards modernizing the Church and improving its ability to deal rationally with modern issues.

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What is the program ?

The program is structured around informal monthly dinners accompanied by presentations or excursions. Presentations may be given by faculty members, MIT artists -in-residence, fellow students or Boston-area artists

When does the program start?

The full 2000-2001 program begins in September 2000

Students may apply to the program by completing and submitting an application form that includes a brief essay describing the student's involvement in the arts, and his/her interest in participating in the Arts Scholars Program. Also required are:

- 2 letters of recommendation - one from an MIT faculty member familiar with the applicant's artistic work
- Interview with selection committee members

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Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

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# FEATURES

## World Domination, Simulated

Reborn Model UN Grabs Awards, Heads for Greece

By Aaron D. Mihalik  
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

For students lacking an outlet for their public speaking abilities and their interest in world politics, the award winning MIT Model United Nation Society is waiting. In the past year the Model UN team has undergone a rebirth, and is bringing home awards from World UN competitions. Model UN will be sending 15 delegates to the Harvard World UN in Greece on March 25th.

"The aim of Model UN is to tackle the same problems that the world leaders of today are tackling, but with youthfulness and a different perspective than the old fogies," said Aziz H. Hassanali '02, president of the MIT Model UN Society. "Model UN is basically a simulation of the United Nations."

The Model UN is comprised of the general assembly, in which every member nation participates. At the Harvard World UN competition, the general assembly is divided into three committees — World Health Organization, Disarmament, and Special Political and Decolonization.

Aside from the general assembly, there are caucus blocks including the Organization of African Unity and the Middle East Summit. "Model UN tries to promote the idea of discussion," said Hassanali. These committees "happen at the UN but they usually happen behind closed doors."

### MIT to participate at World UN

The Harvard World UN is a collection of students from all over the world. "It is a very diverse group of students coming together to solve a problem. It's probably the closest simulation to the UN that you will have," Hassanali.

This year, approximately 700 students will travel to Greece to participate in this five-day

competition. At the competition, MIT's delegates will represent three countries — Algeria, Palestine and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Participants are required to research their country and determine the country's stance on relevant issues and present those perspectives to their committees.

For example, Algerian delegates in the World Health Organization will have several responsibilities. "Primarily, they will have to figure out what Algeria's prospective on health issues is," said Hassanali. "Secondly, they will have to look at it from a global level. [They will consider] what other countries have done and how they can apply things that have worked in Algeria. The whole idea of the exercise is to make you aware of the country and to use your intelligence to come up with solutions."

Although it might seem that Algeria might not have much to offer in discussions in some topics like the disarmament of Iraq, the delegation does have a role to play.

In reality, "any problem that effects some region of the world has ripple effects throughout the whole globe," said Hassanali. And no matter which country you are representing "you can provide some insight to the situation."

### MIT provides diverse, strong team

The MIT participants come from a variety of majors. "It's one of our strengths. At other schools, most participants are international relations students. Our views on topics are much different than an IR person and that adds to the debate," said Hassanali.

As an MIT student, it is difficult to participate in such a time-consuming activity. "At MIT there are many other students who can participate, but MIT doesn't allow them to participate in extra curricular activities," said

Hassanali. "We always welcome more people to join."

"The reasons that people participate are not only do they get to learn about world issues, but they get to interact with people from different school, different backgrounds and different societies," said Hassanali.

For MIT participants, most of the competitions are subsidized by MIT Model UN. MIT Model UN is primarily sponsored by Prudential Securities and "they've deferred much of the cost," said Hassanali.

### Rebirth increases student awareness

The rebirth of MIT Model UN Society began in March 1999. The basic premise of Model UN Society is two fold. The first purpose is "to create an awareness on the MIT campus of global issues. The second goal is to attend conferences."

MIT Model UN has met with success since its rebirth. MIT sent five delegates to last year's Harvard World UN, in Cambridge, England, and won best delegate honors in two committees. During recent Harvard National UN, MIT sent 17 delegates and won two best delegate awards.

Model UN has general meetings every two weeks. During meetings, participants discuss current world issues and listen to speakers.

Speakers provide students with a realistic insight into a complex political situation. "A lot of times [students] can provide solutions to problems, but we don't know the little bits that aren't made aware to the public. When you watch a CNN broadcast, it is very difficult to evaluate things like that," said Hassanali.

"Last month we had the Indian ambassador talk about nuclear proliferation, and the situation with Pakistan and Cashmere. We get people who know the inside story," said Hassanali.

## Viewpoint

What are you doing over spring break?

**Roberta Brooks** has no plans. "I have to be here working," she said. Carmen Lazo explained, "We don't get to take school days off; we get to take days off in the summer." Residents of the Infinite Corridor take note: you can still get bagels and coffee in the Building 4 Coffee shop next week.



**Ali Tabaei G** will be celebrating Persian New Year over the break, which takes place on March 26. "The main tradition [in Iran] is seeing relations to say Happy New Year. In Iran I would take a trip to visit my grandparents; we have Spring Break at the same time over there," he said.



**Melissa Edoh '02** and **Charles Boatn '01** are both travelling over the break. "I'll be leaving Friday to go to London for a couple of days, then Paris and Amsterdam for a couple of days each," Edoh said. Boatn might go to D.C. and New York to see friends. But before and after break, they and other students from MIT



Africans are working to raise \$10,000 for AIDS organizations in Africa. One group, SOS Kinderdorp, finds homes for children orphaned by the epidemic, while the African Aids Initiative uses education to break the taboos surrounding AIDS in African society.



**Thomas F. Tartaron**, lecturer in the department of materials science and engineering and part of the Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology, explained that people in the center were taking advantage of spring break for their field work. Professor Dorothy Hosler and one of her students are in Mexico gathering morning glory plants, which the Mayans used to make rubber balls. "I'm not going away over spring break, but in the summer ... I'm working on a project around the ancient city of Corinth." His specialty is landscape archaeology, which looks at the relationship between human activity and the natural environment.

MIT Sloan first years **Kerry James** and **Melody Rollins** will be going on a 10-day trip to Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong as part of a Sloan Management trip. They will visit both U.S. and domestic companies as well as tourist sites. "We're seeing a lot of Internet companies; maybe 50 percent of the companies we're visiting," said Melody.

The cost to Sloan students is offset by company sponsorships. Before leaving for China, the two are busy with the Minority Business Club's dean's committee on minority faculty and student recruitment. The committee is conducting a survey of minority faculty and Ph.D. candidates from across academia. "[Sloan] may not be putting forward the right image to minority candidates — even before they apply," said Rollins.



Like many other students, **Angela Wang '01** and **Justin Lin '01** are heading home over break, to California and Florida respectively.



Text and photos by  
Michelle Povinelli

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PRESENTS

## DEBATE

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UA  
Elections

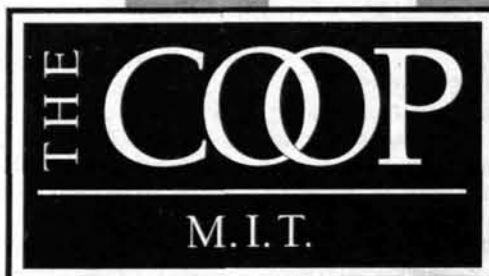


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# THE ARTS

STAGE REVIEW

## *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

*The Passion of Loud Laughter*



Oberon (Jeff Lee, right) realizes that Puck (Abby Spinak '01), an impish fairy, has mistakenly charmed the wrong lovers, leading to a comedy of errors.



Helena (Jean Barnwell '03) breaks down as Lysander (Brian Keller '01) relentlessly pursues her hand.

By Vladimir Zelevinsky  
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Written by William Shakespeare  
Directed by Sarah Hickler and Lisa Wolpe  
With Sarah Cohen, Jean Barnwell, Kortney Adams, Abby Spinak, Jeff Lee, Rydia Vielehr, Brian Keller, Damien Burke, Sean Austin, Alan Groff, Brandy Evans, Kim Falinski, Jessica Hinel, Brenda Pendleton, Alice Tsay, Cyndi Vongvanith  
The MIT Shakespeare Ensemble presentation  
In La Sala de Puerto Rico until March 18

**T**he first (and just about the most important) requirement of a theatrical production is that the audience would sit in a dark room for a couple of hours and not be bored. Shakespeare Ensemble's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* amply satisfies this requirement, and more: it's not merely consistently entertaining, it's downright hilarious, making Shakespeare's comedy instantly — and emotionally — appealing.

This production, directed by Sarah Hickler and Lisa Wolpe, utilizes the dichotomy between two coexisting worlds, one of moping mortals and another of fighting fairies. The world of humans is the one to which the play devotes the bulk of its length, and it is the one that is both funnier and more emotionally appealing than its fairy counterpart.

Two main human plot lines are intertwined through *Midsummer's* fabric, without touching each other, and each is marvelous in a distinct way. The first, where the actions center around a complicated love quadrangle, takes four "foolish mortals" — Helena (Jean Barnwell '03), Hermia (Kortney Adams G),

Lysander (Brian Keller '01), Demetrius (Damien Burke '02) — who are lost in the woods, the labyrinthine surroundings mirroring the tangle of their feelings. For a while, these four wander around (at least, until the plot exposition is over) — and then magic starts happening.

This magic occurs not only in the plot (with the fairies directing these poor mortals like so many actors), but in the true theatrical sense. A scene in the beginning of the second act of this production (Act III, scene 2 in the original play) works as the climax of this storyline, and works doubly: as a comic and as a dramatic high point. The bickering of spurned and betrayed lovers goes on and on, with Shakespeare adding new twists and new jokes after the scene almost seemed to play out, and each minute adds new levels of energy: as the characters become more and more anguished, the scene becomes funnier and funnier. At the same time, there is a distinct note of desperation in these characters: we are witnessing their lives falling apart, and this is powerful stuff, touching and dramatic, enriching the comedy with profound character empathy.

This is not easy to act, and the fact that it works wonderfully is entirely to the credit of Barnwell, playing amusingly neurotic and not overdone, and Adams, regal as usual (the men are fine as well, but they are used more like set pieces, both by the play and by this production). Their acting is committed, physically impressive, and simultaneously tender and feral — and, still, very funny. In addition, their lines sound alive and spontaneous, neither archaic nor stilted. Small details help enormously as well: for example, the

women's hairdos gradually mutate from neat and orderly to wild and messy.

The second human plotline provides the third acting standout: Sarah R. Cohen '00 in the part of Bottom. Cross-casting Bottom and most of the other amateur actors provides instant comic effect, with Thisbe, the only female part in the play-within-the-play, being played by the only male in this group; but the real advantage of this is seeing Cohen do wonders with her part. Playing an actor is one of the hardest acting jobs, and Cohen succeeds where, say, Kevin Kline failed: her Bottom is clearly obsessed by art but not as much as to become obnoxious.

The finale, with its semi-impromptu performance of Pyramus and Thisbe, is where *Midsummer* explodes with inspired comic action, each gag being funnier than the previous one, with every aspect of the production — from the acting and staging to the wildly creative costumes (by Leslie Cocuzzo-Held, Diane Brainerd, and Brandy Evans '01) — joining together to create an irresistible scene. Even small details and lines work: Moonshine (Evans, finally cast in a part which utilizes her great comic timing) gets to deliver only a couple of lines, but to great effect.

There's also the world of fairies, and that doesn't work quite as well. Abby Spinak '01 as Puck is highly impressive in a very physical performance, reinforcing the fact that acting is still the best special effect. The rest of the fairy storyline is functional, but doesn't carry as much emotional heft as the human one does. Since this production chooses to place humans and fairies on the opposite sides of its spectrum, the internal conflict between Oberon (Jeff Lee) and Titania

(Rydia Vielehr '03) gets lost in the background. It's rather hard to care about their argument, especially because its crux, with all its off-the-wall references to a blue baby, feels so perfunctory.

By the way, this distinction — humans versus fairies — is not the only possible way to delineate the polar extremes of *Midsummer's* world: the stunning 1935 black-and-white film with James Cagney and Olivia De Havilland is the best example of a production where the Oberon/Titania conflict works, and the most important reason is that these two are used as the opposites, as apart as night and day, with humans occupying the center.

As the result, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is possibly the funniest Shakespeare I ever saw, easily satisfying the first requirement of theatre that I mentioned above. I can also wish that it was actually about something, but this *Midsummer* is stronger when it concerns individual scenes as opposed to deeper themes. In this production, there's very little connection between the lovers' adventures in the woods and the climactic play performance. This connection exists, however: Bottom is struggling for high art, which he, a mediocre actor at best, can never reach — as he knows he can never repeat that magic night when he, a humble mortal, was loved by the Queen of Fairies.

This hopeless struggle for perfection — whether it is love, or art, or magic — is the underlying theme of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and it is muted, if at all discernible here. Were it clearer, this production could have been as deeply profound as it is remarkably entertaining.



## MUSIC REVIEW

# State of the Airwaves

## Injustice, Invasion, and Indefinite Suspension

By Dan Katz  
STAFF WRITER

Here, concerts, concerts ... Concerts? Where are you? There's slim pickings this week, but the Airwaves Show of the Week honors go to Canadians Great Big Sea and the Push Stars. They're playing a St. Patrick's show tonight at the Avalon that promises to be lively, entertaining, and musically cohesive. For more hardcore tastes, the Donnas arrive at the Middle East tomorrow, and Luna hits the Paradise Rock Club on Thursday. Or at least they would have if the Paradise hadn't managed to get their liquor license suspended indefinitely ... the show's been moved to Axis. Despite this loss of a venue, the club concert scene should perk up again as April rolls in. 3 Doors Down, the Charlatans UK, Stereophonics, and The The are all making local appearances.

I caught the Apollo 440 show at Axis a few weeks ago. The band played an excellent set, cranking out breakbeats and drum n' bass on live drum kits, fusing massive guitar parts and DJ sampling, and generally putting forth unbelievable energy. It kind of makes me wish they toured the States more often ... well, it turns out my prayers have been answered. They'll be joining Filter (another band that puts together rock and electronic music beautifully) for a tour that'll be hitting the Worcester Palladium next month. Tickets go on sale this weekend. I suggest you snap 'em up.

Then again, there are some bands that just shouldn't open for each other. Blink-182's big summer tour features two opening bands: Fenix TX (I can handle that) and Bad Religion. Dear God. Bad Religion are punk legends who shouldn't be opening for anyone, much less formulaic punk-poppers Blink-182, who, like Green Day, accomplish more entertainment in single music videos than they do on entire albums. If there's any justice, the loudest sound at these concerts will be a stampede of people leaving between the second and third set.

25 days until ON's Shifting Skin. Mark your calendars, it's gonna be great.

I'm fairly sure that nobody cares about the results of the Juno Awards (Canada's equivalent of the Grammys) except me, but there's some significance in the victories of two Canadian artists that I keep waiting to see break in the US. The Matthew Good Band managed to defeat Our Lady Peace, Moist, and the Tea Party, all of whom have released albums in the US (although the latest efforts from Moist and Tea Party haven't been imported yet) with their album *Beautiful Midnight*, driven by the single "Hello Time Bomb," which I still say is itching to be a hit down here. Even more impressive is Chantal Kreviazuk, who beat Album of the Year winner Alanis Morissette for the title of Best Female Artist. Chantal is married to OLP frontman Raine Maida, has a great voice, and is no doubt going to be recognized as a major pop star in America one of these days.

Static X's "I'm With Stupid." Um, it's loud, it's hard to understand, and it kinda scares me. That's all I'll say about that one.

Oh, and this is a totally ridiculous thing to bring up, but it is my column ... I just happened to watch Third Eye Blind's video for "Losing A Whole Year" online for nostalgic purposes, and you know what? That was a great video! That's all I wanted to say.

But I am sad to admit that you, the MIT newspaper-reading public, have disappointed me. I put out a call last week for songs on the radio that annoy the hell out of you and received no responses. This is your chance to vent, people! Get angry! Send those tirades, along with any other correspondence regarding this column and the world of rock music to [airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:airwaves@the-tech.mit.edu). All e-mails are read carefully and thoughtfully, and every seventh one wins a pony (while supplies last.) Until next time, keep expanding your horizons.

## FILM REVIEW ★★★½

# Erin Brockovich

Ms. Roberts Goes to Town

By Vladimir Zelevinsky  
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Directed by Steven Soderbergh

Written by Susannah Grant

With Julia Roberts, Albert Finney, Aaron Eckhart, Marg Helgenberger, Cherry Jones

I used to be really grateful for the existence of Julia Roberts. Her presence in a movie was a certain sign that the film would be reasonably well acted, written, and directed, sufficiently diverting and pleasant — as well as being pointless and, ultimately, a waste of time: the perfect example of a Hollywood assembly line production.

Director Steven Soderbergh is just about the opposite: his independent films (like the recent *The Limey*) are tonal poems, placing much more emphasis on mood and separate moments than on the cohesive narrative. It's only when he is working in a studio system (*Out of Sight*) that his films acquire the necessary energy and narrative drive.

The pairing of these two for *Erin Brockovich* felt rather risky, but it works marvels. The film takes from the star and the director their strongest points and uses them to complement each other, creating a movie where story and characters matter, where visuals are handsome and stylized at the same time, and where Roberts manages to exude both appeal and hostility.

The story is a familiar one: it is based on true events, and easily fits into the standard mold of a courtroom drama. The title character is a jobless twice-divorced mother of three, with pretty much no marketable skills and a very sharp tongue. Desperate for some kind of income, Erin practically forces herself into a menial job at a law company, headed by aging lawyer Ed Masry (Albert Finney). She has to deal with a rather mysterious case about a real estate deal, which very soon acquires alarming implications.

Yes, we've seen this story of a crusading lawyer taking on a large hostile company before (the last time being *A Civil Action*) — but Soderbergh manages to make just about every shot come alive with things wondrous and unexpected. Just witness the early shot of Erin driving away from her unsuccessful job interview: in the hands of a more conventional director, this would be the final shot of an opening sequence, with no point of its own. Here, the camera angle and the editing rhythm are

quite as clichéd, lulling the audience into the sense of familiarity. But the shot concludes with a marvelous jolt, a wildly unexpected twist; a rare film can subvert clichés so effectively. The rest of the film continues subverting clichés: *Erin Brockovich* is a courtroom drama without a single courtroom scene, with a riveting conflict but without a single stick-figure villain.

And Soderbergh continues this throughout the movie, not only creating many moments that burst with energy, but also the sense of that wonderful excitement when the viewers are just about dying from curiosity to find out what happens next. I should also credit this narrative pull to Susannah Grant's witty screenplay: it's fun and dramatic and chock-full of brilliant lines. It is also a detailed character study, a fascinating multi-faceted portrayal of several complex individuals. There's a small scene in a restaurant when Erin orders lunch for her children and only coffee for herself: there is a brief, blink-and-you'll-miss-it, flash of recognition between her and the waitress. (One of the film's biggest surprises comes during the final credits: this waitress is played by the real Erin Brockovich in a well-placed cameo.)

And Julia Roberts is absolutely and entirely perfect for this part. It is anything but a soft and cuddly performance: her character is hostile and brittle, an incontrovertible misanthrope with withering contempt for authority. The way Roberts manages to convey all this and at the same time show Erin's utter vulnerability is nothing short of fascinating, as is her delivery of many great lines. She also looks great in a series of rather skimpy outfits, but this is merely an added bonus.

Even when the film goes for obvious (Erin's relationship with a friendly biker next door), it manages to salvage the familiar story thread with a single narrative twist. This particular storyline would be a total waste of time, but the fact that the gender roles are reversed makes it more bearable; its resolution is weak, though (the ending, in general, is a bit on the obvious side).

As a result we have a genre film which combines so many genres (courtroom drama, mystery, relationship and character study, a satire, a wish-fulfillment fable) into a solidly entertaining film, crowd-pleasing in the best sense of the word. *Erin Brockovich* is similar to the films Frank Capra used to make; I haven't heard that much applause during the screening for quite a while.

## OMNIMAX FILM REVIEW ★★★

# Dolphins

Visually Stunning

By Vladimir Zelevinsky  
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Produced and directed by Greg MacGillivray

Written by Tim Cahill and Steve Judson

Narrated by Pierce Brosnan

The film *Dolphins* is a quintessential OmniMax movie, with all the inherent strengths and weaknesses of the giant screen format. It works marvels as a travelogue, filling the screen with eye-popping images — and it is rather short on story and characters.

There's no fault to be found in the larger-than-life images on the five-story tall OmniMax screen; *Dolphins* is produced and directed by Greg MacGillivray, of *Everest* fame, and one can argue that it is, actually, better than the real thing. After all, most of us would need to incur sizable expenses to travel to the Bahamas or Terra Del Fuego, and even then not everyone would be able to swim with the dolphins. This film takes us there, in a convenient forty minutes, and puts us right in the water, right in the middle of a group of either spotted or bottlenose dolphins.

All the usual trappings of giant screen filmmaking are here, and then some: not only do we get breathtaking helicopter shots of the unbelievably blue waters of the Caribbean and lucid underwater photography, but even the transitions between scenes are spectacular. A shot that zooms toward the giant map of the Bahamas, which gradually becomes animated and is finally blown away to reveal the real islands, is nothing short of awe-inspiring.

The movie is almost as exciting when it concerns its subjects. The best scene is an early one, when a dolphin takes an IQ test with unsettling accuracy. There are also nifty



Dr. Kathleen Dudzinski, a marine scientist, swims in the wild as she studies dolphin behavior and vocalizations with the use of a mobile video/acoustic array.

shots of dolphins swimming around, hunting fish, rapidly having sex (I'm serious), etc.

*Dolphins* also attempts to say something about humans, and here it is less successful — although not for the lack of trying, with the focus on two utterly fascinating human beings. First, there's the naturalist Dean Bernal, who is a close friend with a dolphin named JoJo — and this is real friendship, emotionally invested, with detailed wordless communication between the partners.

The other person is marine biologist Kathleen Dudzinski, a veritable treasure trove of information about dolphins, committed intellectually and emotionally to their study. The sight of her swimming among the dolphins as virtually their equal is singularly impressive. What we don't get is practically any insight into these two human characters: Bernal communicates better with JoJo than with the documentary camera, and Dudzinski has only a couple of brief scenes where her passion sur-

faces. For the rest of the film, these two are ciphers, given only generic voiceovers.

Perhaps I'm spoiled by the white-knuckle drama of *Everest* or the unexpected hilarity of *Alaska*, but *Dolphins* also feels very light on story, with only a vaguely related sequence of vignettes instead of a structure. If one is to judge OmniMax movies on their own specialized merits, *Dolphins* is very good; but if one is to apply more stringent criteria and think of them as movies in general, it is merely good.



## FOOD REVIEW

# The Essential Vegetarian

By Katie Jeffreys  
STAFF REPORTER

Another wonderful Meat-Out week is drawing to a close. But vegetarianism can extend far beyond these few days of commitment to the cause. I hope you all saw the Vegetarian Student Group members handing out baby carrots, orange juice, bagels, and of course informative literature. I would like to hear from any of you who signed the Meat-Out pledge to eschew meat on Thursday, or who have taken a long-term vow of vegetarianism/veganism.

This week I tried fast food for a change. Sicilia's Pizza, which delivers from its 840 Commonwealth Avenue location offers some of the most authentic Chicago-style deep dish pizza I have seen. Pizzeria Uno may have created the deep dish, but their version is the ground beef of the pizza world (for lack of a better analogy). Chicago style pizza should have the toppings in the reverse order: on the crust should be cheese, veggies, and then sauce. A final sprinkling of seasonings or parmigiana is a nice touch.

This is the form taken by Sicilia's pizza, but not your average Domino's or Uno's dish. Perhaps I was overcome with nostalgia, (the pizza was a little soggy) but I was generally pleased with what was a filling and tasty product. The menu offers many vegetarian specials, including spinach and zucchini (Sicilia's Original) and mushrooms, green peppers, and onions (Vegi'Sicilia's). They also offer eggplant parmigiana and grilled vegetable sandwiches, as well as wraps, appetizers, and of course, regular and thin crust pizzas. The cost is a little higher per pizza than some pizzerias, but I could

only eat one slice before feeling full, so I would say it is a very good deal.

The recipe this week is a healthy spinach and cheese pie which is simple to make. As always, please e-mail me with any comments at [veggie@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:veggie@the-tech.mit.edu).

## Spinach and Feta Pie

1 pound spinach	1 tsp dried oregano
1 cup egg substitute	1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
1/2 cup nonfat yogurt	1/3 cup dry bread crumbs
2 tbsp crumbled feta cheese	1 tbsp ground pecans
2 cloves garlic, minced	

Wash the spinach in cold water to remove any grit. Cook in a large pot with just the water left clinging to the leaves until wilted. Let cool and squeeze all liquid from the leaves. Transfer to a food processor. Chop with on/off turn.

Add the egg substitute, yogurt, cheese, garlic, oregano and cinnamon.

In a cup, combine the bread crumbs and pecans.

Coat a 9-inch pie plate with nonstick spray. Add the bread crumb mixture and distribute evenly in the bottom and up the sides.

Pour the spinach mixture into the pan. Bake at 400°F for 30 to 40 minutes, or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Serves four.

## CONCERT REVIEW

# Our Lady Peace

Intimate? Not Quite

By Dan Katz  
STAFF WRITER

When I mentioned that I was going to see Our Lady Peace's special "Scaled" show at TT The Bears on Monday, somebody at *The Tech* asked me if I was going to try to get an interview. I said no for a couple of reasons. First of all, the point of the Scaled Tour is that the band plays a semiacoustic set for a small audience and does a Q&A based on questions from the audience, which would make doing another interview overkill. Second of all, I have no real desire to interview Raine Maida, because he is a bit full of himself. During concerts he speaks little if at all, and he's notoriously terse to the press. When I interview a band, I like to get a rapport going, which is not something that seems likely with Raine.

Sure enough, when WFNX DJ Angie C. interviewed the band (which was a very impersonal process at best; the members of the band answered questions while tuning and tweaking their setup), she received a lot of terse responses. Her first question was whether the band would reprise the Summersault tour they organized in 1998 this year. Her answer was an enigmatic nod. When she asked what "Superman's Dead," one of OLP's more successful singles, meant thematically, Maida glared slightly and said he usually did

n't like to discuss his lyrics, although he did then give a vague explanation. I was a bit confused about why a band would do a tour that specifically incorporated interviews and then be so irritated by them (although to their credit, Raine's bandmates seemed much more enthusiastic than he was).

As for the performance itself, it was also a bit disappointing. The band lacked the energy they had when they played the WBCN Christmas Rave, where they blazed through new material like "One Man Army" and "Stealing Babies" with aggression and excitement. In this setting, songs like "Waited" lost a lot of their steam, and other songs like "Naveed" still used electric guitars, so they weren't different enough from their normal presentation to make them special. On the other hand, the show did have a lot of neat touches. The band's traditional closer, "Starseed," sounded great acoustic, "Stealing Babies" was powerful despite being toned down (and overdramaticized), and several songs had the visual background of short films directed by members of the band. The highlight by far, though, was a cover song. From a band known for primarily covering the Beatles and Neil Young, a spellbinding rendition of Massive Attack's "Teardrop" was an extremely pleasant surprise.

It was nice to see that in a sold out club, most of the people present were major fans of

the group. One of the clearest signs of this was during a very emotional performance of "4 a.m.," in which, after the first few lines, Maida stopped singing and the audience took over, singing very clearly. After the first chorus, Maida turned the microphone toward the crowd and allowed them to sing the entire song, claiming afterwards that "that's what music is all about for us." One of the only times he smiled during the entire set was when he let the audience sing the chorus to their current single "Is Anybody Home?" ... and almost unanimously got one of the lyrics wrong, to which he quipped, "Yeah, that was 'painted fear,' but that's okay." It was a rare instance where he actually seemed to be enjoying himself.

However, one of the most representative moments of the night occurred toward the end, when before "Starseed" (there was no encore), Maida apologized that they didn't have more songs that they could play with their Scaled setup. Several voices yelled "Carnival!" and were ignored. Inspecting the guitar setup after the show, I couldn't help but notice that there was a stomp box labeled "Carnival," so the band was clearly equipped to play it. The fact that Our Lady Peace has an audience fanatic enough to sing an entire song by themselves and their lead singer lied to the audience is a simple example of why the band often manages to distance themselves from their crowds. OLP are a terrific band, when they really try to be. Unfortunately on Monday, at least one-fifth of the band wasn't trying very hard, converting what could have been an awesome show to one that was merely decent.

## FILM REVIEW ★★★

# Beautiful People

Wickedly Funny

By Karen Feigenbaum

This hilarious independent British black comedy is somewhat slow to warm up, but the film definitely grows on the viewer as it progresses. *Beautiful People* focuses on a number of Londoners and their different stories, and portrays how their lives overlap throughout the course of a day.

Because there are so many different characters, the film requires at least thirty to forty-five minutes just to introduce them all and for the audience to gain any appreciation for their circumstances. Initially, the viewer isn't really vested in any of these random people or their stories, but interest is definitely fostered by the end of the movie.

Many of the individual stories focus on Bosnia and recent Serb and Croat issues, with oddly comedic twists. In fact, before the movie even finishes rolling the initial credits completely, two men — one Serbian and one Croatian — engage in a random fistfight and foot-chase scene set to wildly frenetic (yet oddly appropriate) music; this introduction perfectly sets the tone of absurdism and hilarity for the ensuing film. Later on, the film tells the tale of a heroin addict and the former Yugoslav territory which is so ridiculous, so preposterous, and yet so positively hysterical that explanations simply don't do it justice and would detract from the unexpected humor generated by honest surprise.

The concept of intertwining vignettes is hardly a new one, but it's rarely done well; past tragedies include Robert Altman's *Short Cuts*, and the more painful recent release *Magnolia*. The fact that this movie is written and directed by first-time filmmaker Jamin Dizdar makes it all the more impressive that it works so successfully. The actors all turn out solid performances, and the cast is littered with deceptively familiar British extras. Half the movie will be spent trying to figure out what movies they were in previously (hint: one is from *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, and another is from *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*).

It should be noted, though, that this movie is probably not going to be enjoyed by everyone. Some will find it clever and fun, but perhaps only those who enjoy jet black comedies and British independent films, and who aren't offended by movie portrayals of heroin addiction or foul language uttered through thick British accents. Viewers who like any combination of the above should probably make it a point to get to a theater soon, because this is the type of obscure film which unfortunately doesn't last long in theaters.

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# ON THE SCREEN

— BY THE TECH ARTS STAFF —

The following movies are playing this week-end at local theaters. The Tech suggests using <http://www.boston.com> for a complete listing of times and locations.

★★★★ Excellent  
★★★ Good  
★★ Fair  
★ Poor

## American Beauty (★½)

An extremely annoying movie: this deadpan black tragicomedy is a laughable failure as a work of art, being pretentious, simplistic, and self-important. Excepting a truly remarkable performance by Kevin Spacey (whose part is disappointingly small), there's nothing to this movie beyond tortured metaphors, caricatures instead of characters, and a messy pile-up of red herrings instead of a plot. — Vladimir V. Zelevinsky

## The Beach (★★½)

The quest for the perfect world drives some people to madness, some to obsession, and some to *The Beach*. In this utopian odyssey chronicling one young, macho American's quest for adventure, elements of postmodern fantasy, horror, and love collide into a final sobering conclusion: that the closest thing to a perfect world may very well be our own. Its gratuitous relationships and its force-feeding of the themes also cripple the plot. — Jacob Beniflah and Amy

Meadows

## Beautiful People (★★★)

A hilarious independent British black comedy that is slow to warm up, but grows on the viewer as it progresses. *Beautiful People* focuses on a number of Londoners and their unique stories, and how their lives intertwine over the course of a day. It should be noted, however, that only people who appreciate dark comedies and British independent films will truly enjoy this film. — Karen Feigenbaum

## Being John Malkovich (★★★½)

A film so different, so whacked-out, so original, and totally unlike anything else out there — like Monty Python at their most deadpan hilarious. An unconventional mixture of comedy, satire, and frighteningly deep ruminations on the nature of personality. — VZ

## Boiler Room (★★½)

A fairly clever, decent movie about the shady dealings of the employees of a small brokerage firm. Witty dialogue and good acting make the film hard to forget, but *Boiler Room* turns out not to be as thrilling as it claims to be. — Jumaane Jeffries

## The Cider House Rules (★★★)

Despite the fact that the protagonists' name is Homer, this film ends up feeling less



Dr Terri Fisher (Connie Nielson, center) aims to fire a life-line wire for her husband, Woody (Tim Robbins), as colleagues Jim McConnell (Gary Sinise, left) and Phil Ohlmyer (Jerry O'Connell, right) look on.

like a Homeric epic and more like a Norman Rockwell painting: hardly great art or even art at all, but something with instantly recognizable humanity and an overall impact that can hardly be ignored. Credit this mostly to luminous acting and the screenplay's understated emotional complexity. — VZ

## Cradle Will Rock (★★★½)

A rich, visually inventive, amazingly-acted, and consistently hilarious tapestry of art set in the 1930's, weaving together characters from John Cusack's Nelson Rockefeller to Emily Watson's homeless street performer. A perfect opening sequence, a perfect closing shot. — VZ

## Dolphins (★★★)

Like most OmniMax movies, *Dolphins* is strong on visuals, filling the screen with eye-popping images, but falls somewhat short on story and characters. The film is stunning as it follows dolphins as they play and hunt, but is less successful when it attempts to say something about humans. — VZ

## Erin Brockovich (★★★½)

A great film that successfully combines many genres: courtroom drama, mystery, relationship and character study, satire, and wish-fulfillment fable. *Erin Brockovich* makes use of actress Julia Roberts' and director Steven Soderbergh's strong points and uses them to complement each other, creating a movie where story and characters matter and where the visuals are handsome and stylized at the same time. — VZ

## Galaxy Quest (★★½)

Not quite the *Star Trek* parody that it starts out like; more of a *Star Trek* rip-off, with the same stupid computer graphics, fake sets, plot holes (all of the above rather irritating), and general air of amiable nonsense (very enjoyable). It's also neat to see a bunch of good actors having fun. Rather stupid, really; at the same time, rather cute. — VZ

## Girl, Interrupted (★★½)

Exploring the struggles of a teenage girl in a mental hospital, Winona Ryder manages the lows but not highs of her character effectively, creating a somewhat skewed view of the movie. However, Angelina Jolie and Brittany Murphy are excellent supporting actresses and serve to balance the movie, while the rest of the acting is lukewarm. Additionally, the dramatic details, such as the lighting, create moods and scenes that are compelling, but that do not make up for the lack of plot. — AM

## Magnolia (★★½)

A sprawling incoherent mess of a movie, with a story and characters that manage to be both jaw-droppingly obvious and make no sense whatsoever. On the other hand, the annoying narrative bombast is compensated by great visual verve, and the climactic sequence is simply the most wildly creative bit of filmmaking of 1999, even though it has nothing to do with the rest of the movie. — VZ

## Mission to Mars (★)

This latest Brian De Palma movie borrows so much from such space films as *Contact*, *Alien*, and *2001: A Space Odyssey* that the result is not only poor — it's laughably poor. *Mission to Mars* relies heavily on computer graphics and insults its audience with bad writ-

ing. The final product would do better as a piece for *Mystery Science Theatre 3000*. — VZ

## The Next Best Thing (★★)

Madonna and Rupert Everett star as best friends who accidentally have a baby together. While Madonna and Everett are convincing in their roles, the premise of a gay man getting drunk and having sex with his female best friend is too far-fetched to swallow. Furthermore, the complicated custody battle that takes up the final third of the movie destroys the flow created by the first part of the film. — Fred Choi

## The Talented Mr. Ripley (★★★)

A lot to recommend: a complex plot, accomplished acting (Matt Damon and Cate Blanchett especially), and gorgeous visuals; especially impressive is the degree to which the audience gets to understand and identify with the film's immoral protagonist. A bit too slowly-paced, though. — VZ

## The Tigger Movie (★★½)

Pooh, Rabbit, Kanga, Roo, and of course, Tigger return to the big screen in the newest Disney animated adventure. This story of Tigger's quest to find other tiggers benefits from top-notch animation, but feels too childish to be enjoyable. — EB

## Topsy-Turvy (★★★)

Following the trials and triumphs of Gilbert and Sullivan as they create their masterpiece *The Mikado*, *Topsy-Turvy* holds and keeps the audience's attention. But it's the breathtaking final five minutes that make the film worth seeing. — VZ

## Toy Story 2 (★★★½)

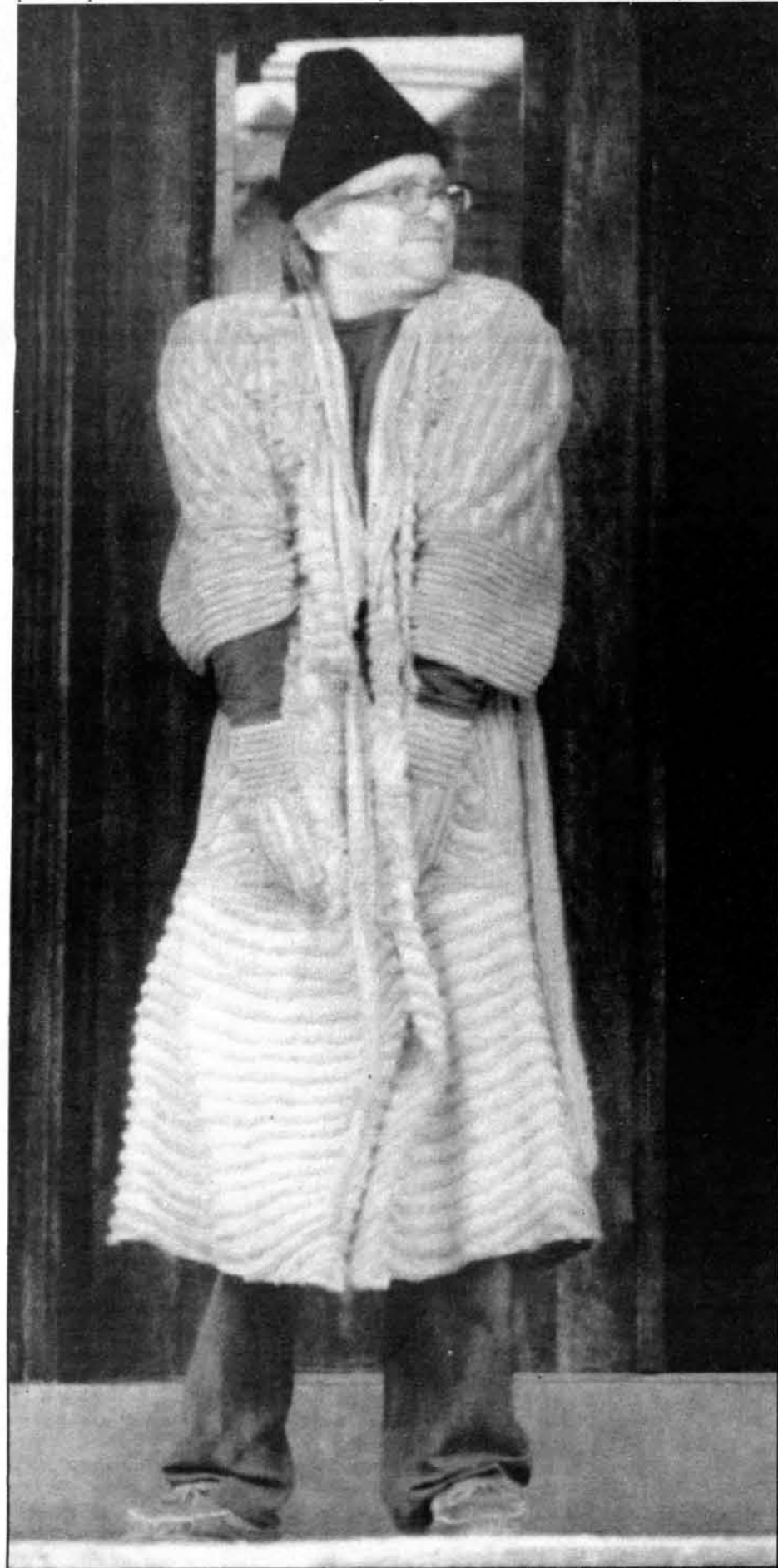
An instant classic, one of the most creative and fun movies of the year, this completely computer-generated sequel about the adventures of a bunch of toys is clever, funny, complex, and, most surprisingly, deeply emotional. — VZ

## The Whole Nine Yards (½)

There are films that are bad, and there are films that are so bad they are good, and then there is *The Whole Nine Yards*, which is so bad it's not even so bad it's good, and there's no point about writing anything about this stillborn, humorless, sexist, violent piece of garbage, not even worth deciding if the word "sucks" or "stinks" applies better, and since I already killed an hour and a half of my life watching this abomination, I'm not going to write more than a single sentence about it, so there. — VZ

## Wonder Boys (★★★)

*Wonder Boys*, director Curtis Hanson's first film since *L.A. Confidential*, is an endearingly offbeat comedy that takes its sweet time developing, though most of that time it is a delight. Michael Douglas stars as the unshaven, over-the-hill writer and professor Grady Tripp. Tobey Maguire and Katie Holmes play Tripp's students, with Maguire stealing the spotlight as a darkly enchanting would-be Poe. Also enjoyable are Robert Downey Jr. as Tripp's loony editor, and Frances McDormand. Though overlong and overstuffed, the plot is always amiable and amusing, and the cast makes this one worth watching. — Roy Rodenstein



FRANK CONNOR—PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Michael Douglas stars as the unshaven, over-the-hill writer and professor Grady Tripp in *Wonder Boys*, directed by Curtis Hanson.



# Popular Music

## AXIS

Next: 423-NEXT, 617-262-2437  
13 Lansdowne St.

Mar. 24: Reveille.  
Apr. 8: 3 Doors Down.  
Apr. 10: Methods of Mayhem.

## Avalon

617-262-2424  
15 Lansdowne St.

Mar. 17: The Push Stars.  
Mar. 29: No Doubt.  
Apr. 4: Rollins Band.  
Apr. 11: Tower of Power.  
Apr. 15: Violent Femmes.  
Apr. 26: Deep Banana Blackout.  
Apr. 27: Joe Satriani.

## Berklee Performance Center

Berklee College of Music  
1140 Boylston St.  
Free student recitals and faculty  
concerts, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. some  
weekdays. For info. on these con-  
certs, call the Performance Infor-  
mation Line at 747-8820.

Mar. 18: Bruce Cockburn  
\$26.50-\$24.50.  
Mar. 26: Ryuichi Sakamoto, TBA.  
Mar. 30-31: Arturo Sandoval.  
Apr. 4: Steve Sweeney Ship Of  
Fools.  
Apr. 14: New Friends Live Dance  
Performance.  
May 5: Alex Fox Guitar On Fire  
Tour 2000.  
May 6: Lorie Line.  
May 7: New England Bodybuild-  
ing Championships.  
May 14: Maynard Ferguson and  
Arturo Sandoval.  
May 20: Regina Belle.

## Centrum Centre

Ticketmaster 931-2000.

Mar. 25: Britney Spears. Sold  
Out.  
Mar. 30: Korn. Sold Out.  
Mar. 31: Korn. \$29.50.

## Club Passim

47 Palmer St., Cambridge.  
Ticket prices vary. Call 618-492-  
7679 for more info.

Mar. 17: Joel Cage & Tom Dean.  
Mar. 18: Odetta.  
Mar. 22: Sandi Hammond & Jody  
Blackwell.  
Mar. 25: SONIA.  
Mar. 29-30: Kevin So.  
Mar. 31: Rose Polenzani.

## Fleet Center

Ticketmaster: 931-2000.

Mar. 26-27: Crosby, Stills, Nash,  
and Young. \$201, \$76, \$51,  
\$40.50.

## The Lizard Lounge

1667 Mass Ave.  
617-547-0759

Mar. 18: Astro Slut.

## The Middle East

Ticketmaster: 931-2000.  
Ticket prices vary. Call 354-8238  
for more info.

Mar. 17: Al and the Transameri-  
can with Members of the  
bands moe. and Strangefolk  
for a night of improv jam rock.  
Mar. 17: Ragin' Teens.  
Mar. 18: The Donnas.  
Mar. 18: Waltham.  
Mar. 20: Honeysuckle Vine with  
opening acts Steelhead, Fell  
Threw, and Almost Speech-  
less.  
Mar. 25: Femi Kuti.  
Apr. 22: Dick Dale.

## Orpheum Theatre

Ticketmaster: 931-2000

Apr. 6: Tracy Chapman. \$36-  
\$26.  
Apr. 7: Bryan Adams. \$51,  
\$38.50, \$31.  
Apr. 8-10: Phil Lesh & Friends.  
\$37.  
Apr. 15: Bela Fleck and the  
Flecktones, TBA.  
Apr. 24: Third Eye Blind. \$25.  
Apr. 27: Oasis. \$26.

## Sanders Theatre

617-496-2222  
45 Quincy St., 02138

Mar. 17: National Song and  
Dance Company of Mozam-  
bique.  
Mar. 19: Salute to Robert Shaw,  
presented by the Masterworks  
Chorale.

## T.T. the Bear's Place

10 Brookline St., Cambridge,  
617-492-2327

Mar. 17: Canine.  
Mar. 18: Jim's Big Ego.  
Mar. 19: Nimmer, Carry the  
Zero, The Dot, and Digital  
Blue.  
Mar. 21: Chelsea on Fire.  
Mar. 22: Best Friend Josh with  
opening acts Kung Fu Grip  
and Jericho.

# Jazz Music

## Regattabar

Concertix: 876-7777

Mar. 17-19: McCoy Tyner Trio.  
Mar. 21: Michelle Willson & Her  
Evil Gai Festival Orchestra.  
Mar. 22: Anton Schwartz Quar-  
tet.  
Mar. 23-25: Kenny Barron Quint-  
tet.  
Mar. 28: Galindo/Phaneuf Sex-

# On The Town

A weekly guide to the arts in Boston

March 17 - 28

Compiled by Fred Choi

Send submissions to ott@the-tech.mit.edu or by interdepartmental mail to "On The Town," The Tech, W20-483.

tet.

## Scullers Jazz Club

(All performers have two  
shows per day unless other-  
wise noted.)

Mar. 17: Walter Beasley.  
Mar. 22: Eric Marienthal.  
Mar. 23: The Joyce DiCamil-  
lo Trio.

# Classical Music

## Boston Symphony Orchestra

Tickets: 266-1492.

Performances at Symphony  
Hall, 301 Massachusetts  
Ave., Boston, unless other-  
wise noted. For MIT Students:  
Tickets are offered for Thurs-  
day evening concerts (8pm)  
and Friday afternoon concerts  
(1:30 p.m.) and are available  
on the day of the concert only  
at the BSO Box Office at Sym-  
phony Hall (301 Massachu-  
setts Ave. Open 10 a.m. -  
6 p.m.). Two tickets may be  
obtained with two current  
valid MIT student IDs, subject  
to availability. For updated  
MIT student ticket availability,  
call 638-9478 after 10 a.m.  
on the day of concert.

Mar. 17-18, 21: Janice Wat-  
son, soprano; Andre Previn,  
conductor. An All-Strauss  
Program including Sextet,  
Moonlight Music, and Clos-  
ing scene from *Capriccio* and  
the *Symphonia domestica*.  
Pre-concert talk given by  
John Daverio.

Apr. 1, 4, 5, 6: Krystian  
Zimerman, piano; Seiji  
Ozawa, conductor. Berlioz:  
Roman Carnival Overture;  
Dutilleul; Symphony No. 2.  
Le Double; Rachmaninoff: Piano  
Concerto No. 2. Pre-concert talk  
given by Jessie Ann Owens Apr.  
1, 4, Apr. 5, 6 at Carnegie Hall  
in NY: call 212-247-7800 for  
tickets.

## BankBoston Celebrity Series

Tickets: 482-6661.

Performances at Symphony Hall,  
301 Massachusetts Ave.,  
Boston unless otherwise noted.

Mar. 18 at 8 p.m.: Beaux Arts  
Trio. Beethoven: Variations on  
"Ich bin ein der Schneider  
Kakadu" in G Major, Op. 121A;  
Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 97  
("Archduke"); Shostakovich: Trio  
No. 2 in E minor, Op. 67. At  
NEC's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsbor-  
ough St., Boston, MA. \$45, \$42,  
\$38.

May 12 at 8 p.m.: Audra McDon-  
ald. Theater's youngest three-  
time Tony award winner presents  
songs from her latest album *How  
Glory Goes*, her debut album *Way  
Back to Paradise*, as well as  
standards by Arlen, Kern, and  
Weill. At the Sanders Theater,  
Memorial Hall, Harvard Universi-  
ty, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge, A.  
Tickets \$42, \$38, \$35 and avail-  
able by calling CelebrityCharge  
617-482-6661.

## Schubert and Brahms

Apr. 7 at 8 p.m.: The Handel and  
Haydn Society Orchestra and  
Chorus present a program of  
music by Schubert, Brahms, and  
Rossini, conducted by Harry Bick-  
et. At the New England Conserva-  
tory's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsbor-  
ough St., Boston. Tickets \$49,  
\$37, \$25, available at the H&H  
box office, 300 Mass. Ave. M-F  
10 a.m.-6 p.m. or call 617-266-  
3605 or visit <www.handel-  
haydn.org>. Also available at all  
Ticketmaster locations or by call-  
ing 617-931-ARTS.

## The Messiah

Apr. 9 at 3 p.m.: The Boston  
Cecilia performs Handel's *Messiah*  
in New England Conserva-  
tory's Jordan Hall. Music Director  
Donald Teeters will conduct the  
Cecilia Chorus and Period Instru-  
ments Orchestra, with soloists  
Sharon Baker, soprano, Jeffrey  
Gall, countertenor, Richard  
Clement, tenor, and Mark  
Risinger, bass. Tickets are \$60-  
411 and may be purchased by



J. HENRY FAIR

**French pianist Hélène Grimaud performs Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20 with the Boston Symphony Orchestra March 23-28. For tickets, call (617) 266-1200.**

calling the Boston Cecilia office  
at 617-232-4540 or the Jordan  
Box Office at 617-536-2412. Dis-  
counts available for students  
and senior citizens. For more  
info., call the Boston Cecilia  
office or visit  
<http://www.bostoncecilia.org>.

# Theater

## The After-Rhyme

Mar. 24, 25, 26, 31, Apr. 1, 2,  
6, 7, 8. Sun. at 2 p.m., all oth-  
ers at 8 p.m. The Boston theater  
company, Rough & Tumble The-  
atre, presents a new comedy in  
the absurd tradition. It concerns  
such pressing issues as: Can a  
Butcher do more than Butch?  
What do old Pie Men dream of?  
and What does fruit really mean?  
At the Black Box theater in the  
Boston Center for the Arts, 539  
Tremont Street, near the Back  
Bay stop on the Orange Line.  
Tickets \$10 for all shows. For  
more information, email rough-  
and-tumble@usa.net. For reser-  
vations, call the BCA box office  
at 617-426-ARTS (2787).

## 4 Saints in 3 Acts

Apr. 6-8 at 8 p.m. at th Boston  
Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemen-  
way St., Boston. Presented by the  
Boston Conservatory Opera  
Department. Based on the poetry  
of Gertrude Stein, this ground-  
breaking modern opera deals with  
the lives of the saints. The opera  
caused controversy when it  
debuted in 1934 and is consid-  
ered a landmark of the avant-  
garde. Tickets \$16, \$10 students  
under 15, \$7 student rush.

## The Jungle Book

Apr. 7-May 7, Fri. at 7:30 p.m.,  
Sat., Sun. at 3:00 p.m.: The  
Wheelock Family Theatre (180  
The Riverway, Boston) presents  
a exciting, charming, and humor-  
ous adaptation of Rudyard  
Kipling's classic book for chil-  
dren. Tickets are \$10-\$17. ASL  
and Audio description May 5, 7.  
The theater is wheelchair acces-  
sible. To reserve tickets or for  
more information, call 617-734-  
4760, TTY 731-4426.

## Blue Man Group

Charles Playhouse, 74 Warren-  
ton Street, Boston, indefinitely.  
Curtain is at 8 p.m. on Wednes-  
day and Thursday, at 7 and 10  
p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and  
at 3 and 6 p.m. on Sunday. Tick-  
ets \$35 to \$45. Call 426-6912  
for tickets and information on  
how to see the show for free by  
ushering.

## Shear Madness

Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74  
Warrenton Street, Boston (426-  
5225), indefinitely. Curtain is at  
8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday,  
at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. on Satur-  
day, and at 3 and 7:30 p.m. on  
Sunday. Tickets \$30-34.

# Exhibits

## Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston. (566-  
1401), Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5  
p.m. Admission \$10 (\$11 on  
weekends), \$7 for seniors, \$5  
for students with ID (\$3 on  
Wed.), free for children under  
18.

The museum, built in the style of  
a 15th-century Venetian palace,  
houses more than 2500 art  
objects, with emphasis on Italian  
Renaissance and 17th-century  
Dutch works. Among the high-  
lights are works by Rembrandt,  
Botticelli, Raphael, Titian, and  
Whistler. Guided tours given Fri-  
days at 2:30 p.m.

## The Contemporary Artist in the Museum

Apr. 11: a *Food for Thought: Dia-  
logues on Art* lunchtime talk by  
Judy Fox, Curator of the Davis  
Museum and Cultural Center,  
Wellesley, on Tue., Apr. 11, at  
12:15 p.m. Reservations  
required; call 617-278-4150.  
free with Museum admission.

## Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston.  
(267-9300), Mon.-Tues., 10  
a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Wed., 10  
a.m.-9:45 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri.,  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10  
a.m.-5:45 p.m. West Wing open  
Thurs.-Fri. until 9:45 p.m.  
Admission free with MIT ID, oth-  
erwise \$10, \$8 for students and  
seniors, children under 17 free;

\$2 after 5 p.m.  
Thurs.-Fri., free Wed.  
after 4 p.m.

Mon.-Fri.: introductory  
walks through all collec-  
tions begin at 10:30 a.m.  
and 1:30 p.m.; "Asian,  
Egyptian, and Classical  
Walks" begin at 11:30  
a.m.; "American Painting  
and Decorative Arts  
Walks" begin at 12:30  
p.m.; "European Painting  
and Decorative Arts  
Walks" begin at 2:30  
p.m.; Introductory tours  
are also offered Sat. at  
11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.  
Permanent Gallery Instal-  
lations: "Late Gothic  
Gallery," featuring a  
restored 15th-century  
stained glass window from  
Hampton Court, 14th- and  
15th-century stone,  
alabaster, and polychrome  
wood sculptures from  
France and the Nether-  
lands; "Mummy Mask  
Gallery," a newly renovat-  
ed Egyptian gallery, fea-  
tures primitive masks dat-  
ing from as far back as  
2500 B.C.; "European  
Decorative Arts from 1950  
to the Present"; "John  
Singer Sargent: Studies  
for MFA and Boston Public  
Library Murals."  
Gallery lectures are free  
with museum admission.

## Museum of Our National Heritage

33 Marrett Rd., Lexington,  
02421. (781-861-6559).  
Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
Sun. 12 p.m.-5 p.m.  
Admission and parking  
free  
<http://www.mnh.org>

## Museum of Science

Science Park, Boston.  
(723-2500), Daily, 9 a.m.-  
5 p.m.; Fri., 9 a.m.-9  
p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-5  
p.m. Admission free with  
MIT ID, otherwise \$9, \$7  
for children 3-14 and  
seniors.

The Museum features the  
theater of electricity (with indoor  
thunder-and-lightning shows  
daily) and more than 600 hand-  
son exhibits. Ongoing: "Discovery  
Center"; "Investigate! A See-For-  
Yourself Exhibit"; "Science in the  
Park: Playing with Forces and  
Motion"; "Seeing is Deceiving."  
Ongoing: "Everest: Roof of the  
World"; "Living on the Edge."  
Admission to Omni, laser, and  
planetarium shows is \$7.50,  
\$5.50 for children and seniors.  
Now showing: "Laser Depeche  
Mode," Sun., 8 p.m.; "Laser Off-  
spring," Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.;  
"Laser Rush," Sun., 9:15;  
"Laser Beastie Boys," Thurs.-  
Sat., 9:15 p.m.; "Laser Floyd's  
Wall," Fri.-Sat., 10:30 p.m.; "Fri-  
day Night Stargazing," Fri., 8:30  
p.m.; "Welcome to the Univer-  
se," daily; "Quest for Contact:  
Are We Alone?" daily.

## Commonwealth Museum

220 Morrissey Blvd., Boston,  
02125. Located across from the  
JFK Library. Hours: M-F 9-5, S 9-  
3. Admission is Free. For more  
info. or to arrange a tour, call  
617-727-9268.

## Sprout

Through Mar. 17 at the Kaji Aso  
Studio Gallery, 40 St. Stephen  
St., Boston, 02115, near Sym-  
phony Hall. The Kaji Aso Studio  
presents the pottery of Yasuko  
Dower and the calligraphy of Kaji  
Aso. Yasuko Dower specializes  
in raku and pit fired works, and  
has a studio on Cape Cod. Kaji  
Aso has calligraphy featured in  
the permanent collection of the  
National Museum of Modern Art  
in Tokyo, the Modern Museum of  
Art in New York, and the MFA in  
Boston. Opening Reception Sat.  
Mar. 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. For more  
information and gallery hours call  
617-247-1719.

## Bear Icons

Through Mar. 19, Open daily 10  
a.m. to 4 p.m. At The Gallery at  
Mount Ida College (Carlson Stu-  
dent Center, 777 Dedham St.,  
Newton Centre, MA): A presenta-  
tion of the "Art and Artifacts of  
Queer Masculinity," the presen-  
tation of this traveling exhibition  
reveals a vast array of self-repre-  
sentation of gay male "bear sen-  
sibilities" as a  
postmodern/avant-garde installa-  
tion of two- and  
three-dimensional objects, multi-

media, and live performance  
artists. The show mixes folk,  
commercial, documentary, and  
fine art vocabularies to demon-  
strate the rapid expansion of  
a new gay male archetype. Free  
admission. For more information,  
go to: <http://bearhistory.com>

## The Living Room

Through Apr. 30: Born in Taiwan,  
Lee Mingwei's practice as an  
artist is to create installations  
that involve personal exchanges  
between the viewers and the  
artist. Lee will create a modern-  
day version of the salon life of  
Isabella Gardner used to enliven  
her collection. Lee and museum  
staff will act as hosts to the  
museum, spending the day inter-  
acting with visitors who enter the  
special exhibition gallery.

## Lynn Beach Painters

Through Aug. 20: The exhibit,  
subtitled "Art Along the North  
Shore, 1880-1920," presents 60  
works of the seven lyrical and  
evocative painters that com-  
prised the school of American  
Marine Impressionists. The exhi-  
bition focuses on the signifi-  
cance and cohesiveness of the  
group placed within the context  
of the period of American art.

# Other Events

## John F. Kennedy Library Public Forums

At the John F. Kennedy Library  
and Museum, Columbia Point,  
Boston. Free. For more info., call  
617-929-4571.

## Robert Frost: The Nation's Poet

Apr. 2, 2 to 4 p.m.: In his recent  
biography, Robert Frost: A Life,  
Jay Parini analyzes the conflict  
between Frost's artistic need for  
solitude and his desire for expo-  
sure to the general public. After  
viewing clips of Frost's recitation  
at JFK's inaugural, Jay Parini,  
poet, novelist, and professor at  
Middlebury College, will offer his  
analysis of the final years of one  
of this century's greatest poets.

## "Mission Control: We have a Problem"

Apr. 17: Marking the 30th anniver-  
sary of Apollo 13, NASA Mission  
Control Director Gene Kranz will  
discuss his new book, *Failure is  
not an Option*, providing an insid-  
er's account of the entire manned  
space program including the  
flights of Alan Shepard and John  
Glenn, Neil Armstrong's moon-  
walk, and the memorable return to  
earth of Apollo 13. Kranz will also  
discuss Hollywood's dramatization  
of the flight by showing clips from  
the movie in which he was pro-  
trayed by Ed Harris.

## Film Festivals

At the Museum of Fine Arts,  
Boston, 02115. For tickets and  
more information, call 369-  
3770. Tickets for each showing  
are \$7, \$6 MFA members,  
seniors, students, unless other-  
wise noted.

## Nine Films by Max Ophuls

The retrospective of the German-  
born Max Ophuls combines  
reversed classics with rarely  
screened archival films.  
Mar. 17 at 6 p.m.: *The Exile*  
(1947, 95 min.).

## Hou Hsiao-Hsien: Director of the Decade

The MFA is currently the sole  
institution to host all 14 of Tai-  
wanese director Hou Hsiao-  
Hsien's films in a complete ret-  
rospective, including his first  
three rarely seen films, and  
Boston premieres of Hou's two  
most recent films, *The Flowers  
of Shanghai* and *Goodbye South,  
Goodbye*. Hsien was called "the  
world's greatest active narrative  
filmmaker" by the *Village Voice*.  
Mar. 24 at 7:45 p.m., Mar. 25,  
at 3:45 p.m.: *The Flowers of  
Shanghai* (1998, 120 min.).

## Don Quixote

Mar. 30-Apr. 9, Tue. 8 p.m.,  
Wed.-Thu. 7 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 8  
p.m., Sat.-Sun. 2 p.m.: The  
Boston Ballet presents Cer-  
vantes' classic tale of chivalry  
and romance. At the Wang Cen-  
ter (270 Tremont St., Boston).  
tickets available at the Boston  
Ballet box office, or by calling  
617-695-6950 or Telecharge 1-  
800-447-7400. \$73-\$12.50,  
studnet rush tickets \$12.50.

## Lesbigny Film Series

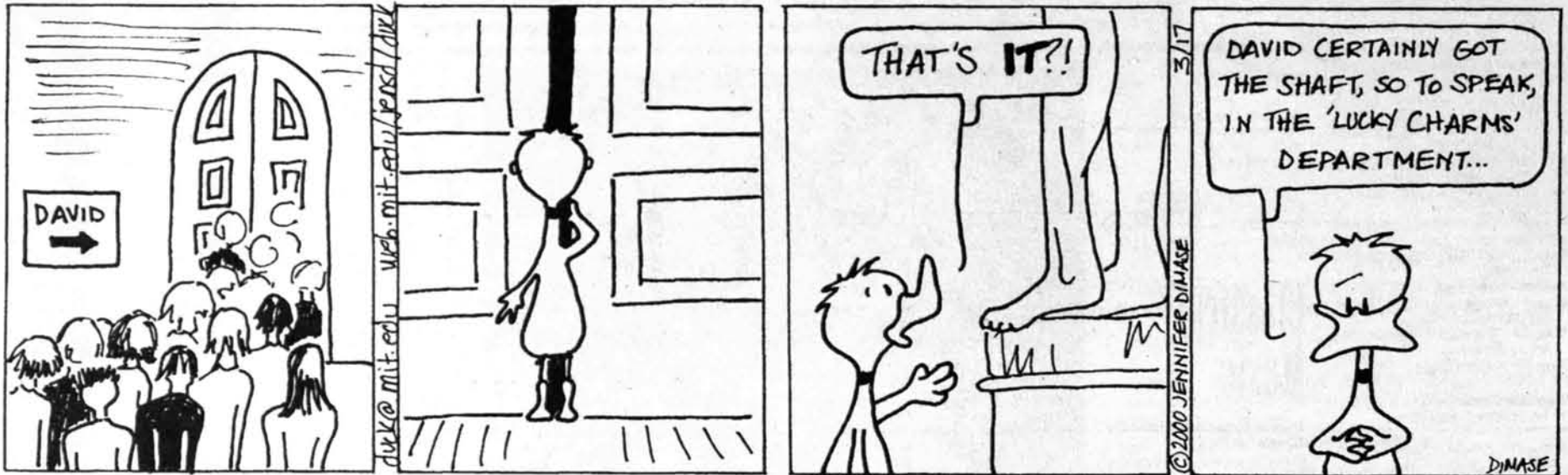
Presented by Club Pride at Rox-  
bury Community College.

Apr. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Roxbury  
Community College, Academic  
Building, Room 121 (1234  
Columbus Avenue, at the inter-  
section of Columbus and  
Tremont, located directly directly  
across street from the Roxbury  
Crossing T station (Orange Line).  
*Woubi Cheri* (Directors: Philip  
Brooks & Laurent Bacahut, 62  
minutes, France/Ivory Coast,  
1998). In French with English  
Subtitles. The first film to give  
African homosexuals a chance to  
describe their world in their own  
words. Free parking. Free and  
open to the public. Refresh-  
ments served.

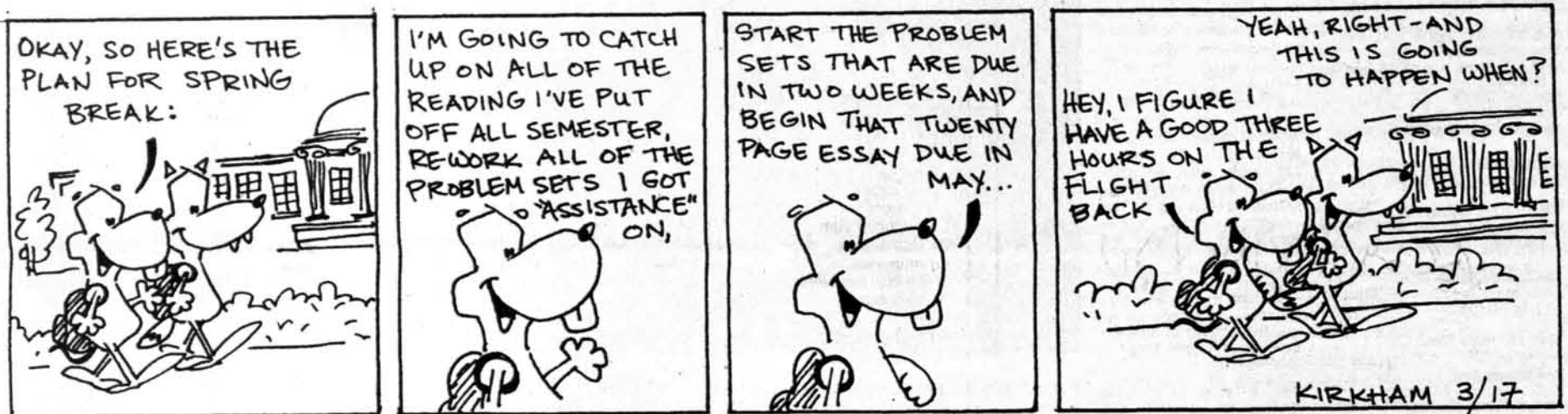


Down with Science (da Firenze)

by Jennifer DiMase



the crass rat



Xippo's Counselor

SOLAR C. OLUGEBOFA



INSTITUTE MADNESS!

ALISON WONG





reader's warning: the following drawn strip is only sometimes funny, thus the title...

OCCASIONAL COMIC



Fun With Clip Art

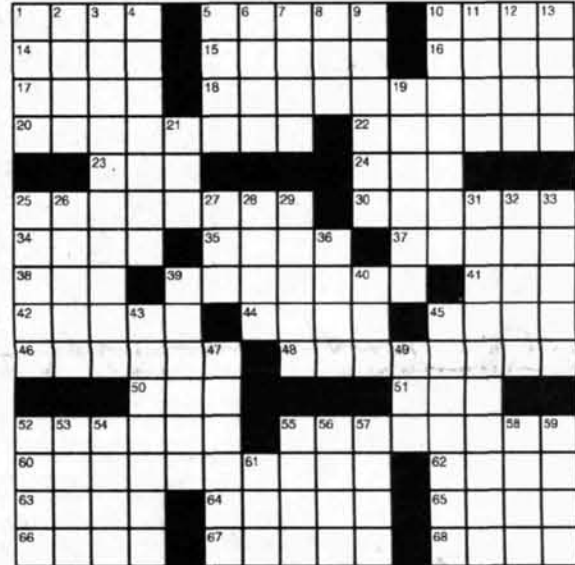
Aaron Isaksen



"Well this explains everything! The reason we can't find poo at the market is because its not a food!"

Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS
- 1 Attention-getting sound
  - 5 Helicopter blade
  - 10 Legal document
  - 14 Washed out
  - 15 Wear away
  - 16 "Music charms..."
  - 17 Klensch of CNN
  - 18 Reliance
  - 20 Unnamed bad folk
  - 22 Get one's incisors
  - 23 Abandon truth
  - 24 Corner pipe
  - 25 Animation
  - 30 Certain believers
  - 34 Lupino and Tarbell
  - 35 Resounding defeat
  - 37 Neon fish
  - 38 Assistance
  - 39 Make a pledge
  - 41 Fam. member
  - 42 Bullwinkle, e.g.
  - 44 Archibald of the NBA
  - 45 "Daily Planet" reporter
  - 46 Sandal ties
  - 48 Ranch workers
  - 50 Make a choice
  - 51 Assn.
  - 52 Knitted shoe
  - 55 Requires by law
- DOWN
- 1 Simians
  - 2 Light ring
  - 3 Neighbor of Guatemala
  - 4 Bad 'uns
  - 5 Cincinnati nine
  - 6 Nabisco cookie
  - 7 Better's
  - 8 Keatsian work
  - 9 Leased
  - 10 Bicycle stunt
  - 11 Go on a tirade
  - 12 "The Seven-Year"
  - 13 Quaker pronoun
  - 19 Take out
  - 21 Bear's lair
  - 25 Neeson and O'Flaherty
  - 26 Simpleton
  - 27 Go wrong
  - 28 Anon
  - 29 Poison ivy
  - 31 Make more powerful
  - 32 The way things are going?
  - 33 Mineral cathartics
- 60 Excessive
- 62 Gent
- 63 Rich soil
- 64 Nigerian city
- 65 Wife of Zeus
- 66 Star modifier
- 67 Does the crawl
- 68 Hostelries



- 36 Yugoslavian dictator
- 39 up (invigorated)
- 40 Put in stitches
- 43 and Principe
- 45 Former capital of
- Pakistan
- 47 Toughens up
- 49 Brick carrier
- 52 Medley or Tilden
- 53 Melville novel
- 54 Arabian sultanate
- 55 Wise Men
- 56 Small particle
- 57 Untouchable
- Eliot
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- 61 Uncooked

TechCalendar

TechCalendar appears in each issue of The Tech and features events for members of the MIT community. The Tech makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and The Tech shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the TechCalendar web page.

Visit and add events to TechCalendar online at <http://tech-calendar.mit.edu>

Friday's Events

6:00 p.m. - Graduate Christian Fellowship Meeting. "Sharing the Experience" - music, prayer, and testimonies on "What has God been doing in my life recently?". Student Center W20-491. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

7:00 - 12:00 p.m. - MIT Anime Showing. 4 episodes of our primary series: Nadia; 2 episodes of our secondary series: Serial Experiments Lain; feature anime: TBA. Up-to-date schedules at <http://web.mit.edu/anime/www/mitanime.html>. Admission 0. E51-345. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

8:00 p.m. - A Midsummer Night's Dream. Co-directed by Lisa Wolpe, artistic director of Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare group and Sarah Hickler. \$8 general admission. Admission 6.00. Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

9:00 p.m. - Potluck Performance Art Party. AKA show+tell. Bring video, poetry, slides, anything to read, show, perform and/or consume. N52-115. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

12:30 p.m. - Preparing for a Baby, Part III, Betsy Ross, A2Z Psychotherapy. Preregistration is required; call x3-1592. Open. More info: Call Family Resource Center at 253-1592. Email

frc@mit.edu. Web: <http://web.mit.edu/personnel/www/frc/>. Rm 16-151.

Saturday's Events

8:00 p.m. - A Midsummer Night's Dream. Co-directed by Lisa Wolpe, artistic director of Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare group and Sarah Hickler. \$8 general admission. Admission 6.00. Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: Office of the Arts.

Monday's Events

7:40 - 10:00 p.m. - Kendo Practice. Come learn the Japanese art of swordfighting under the instruction of sensei Junji Himeno, 7th dan from Harvard. No experience is necessary. T-Club Lounge. Sponsor: MIT Kendo Club.

Tuesday's Events

12:00 a.m.- SPRING BREAK - No Seminar this week Refreshments served 4:15pm. Open. More info: Call Lori Martinez at 253-2481. Email drag-onl@mit.edu.



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IT'S NORMAL TO HAVE STRESS WHEN A MERGER IS PENDING.

MERGER? WHAT MERGER?

THERE I GO AGAIN!

SHOULD I BE TRYING TO DISCOVER A SHARED VISION THAT WILL FOSTER ENROLLMENT RATHER THAN COMPLIANCE?

OR SHOULD I MODIFY MY CONCEPTUAL MAP TO FOCUS ON ORGANIZATIONAL COMPLEXITY?

IS ANY OF THAT THE SAME AS WORK?

IT PAYS THE SAME.

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

(GASP GASP) EEK! I'M LATE FOR ENGLISH!

(GASP GASP) AAA! I'M LATE FOR GEOMETRY!

(GASP GASP) SHOOT! I'M LATE FOR BIO!

AT LEAST I GOT TO GYM CLASS ON TIME.

I HOPE YOU'RE ALL READY FOR SOME SPRINTING TODAY, PEOPLE.

ELEVEN TIGERS! SIX LIONS!

MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH

TA-DA! GONE WITHOUT A TRACE!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

I DON'T GET IT. MAYBE SIEGFRIED AND ROY OWN VEGAS; WE JUST GET LAUGHED AT.

WE NEED MORE MAKEUP.

JASON, WOULD YOU PLEASE TELL YOUR SISTER THAT DINNER'S IN 10 MINUTES?

PAIGE, DINNER'S IN 10 MINUTES!

WHAT?

MOM SAYS DINNER'S IN 10 MINUTES!

DINNER'S IN DEAD MITTENS??

10 MINUTES!

I MEANT GO UP-STAIRS AND TELL HER!

SHEESH. YOU DON'T HAVE TO YELL.



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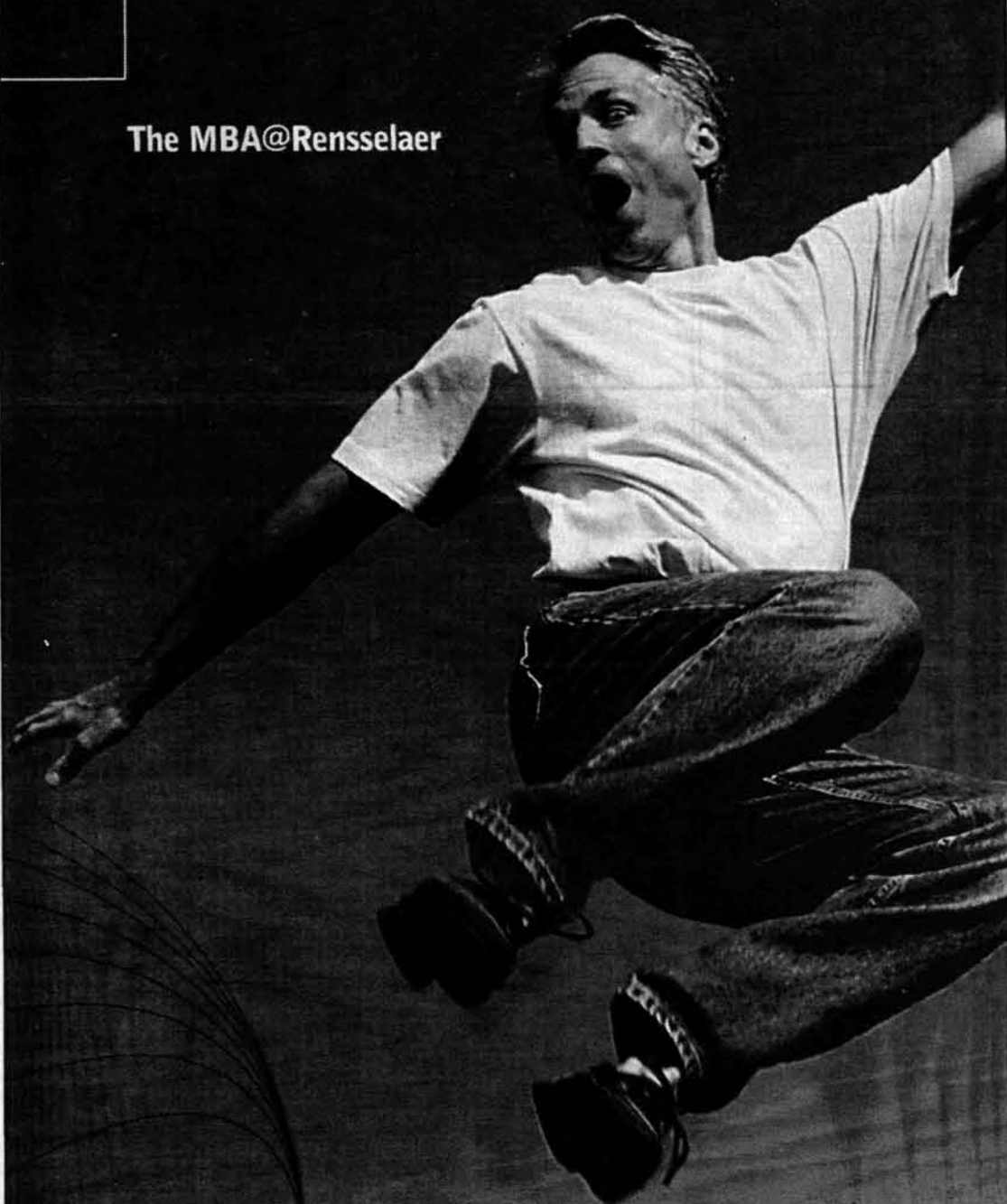
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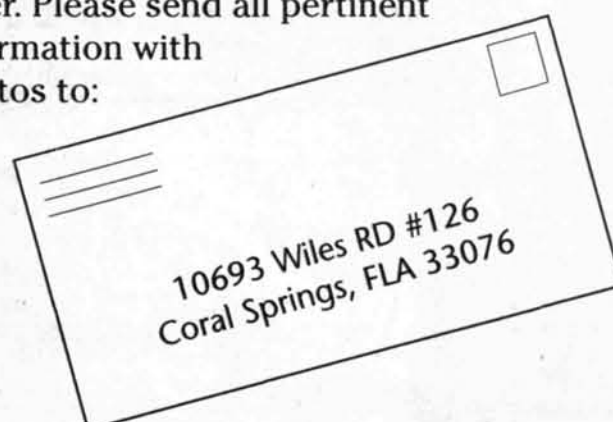
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# Students Mixed on Prospect of Dormitory Repairs

Repairs, from Page 1

two," Frank said. "If we can take a step back from our personal feelings about this, we can see this is a for the greater good for the building."

Evans said that the administration has been "very vague" about plans so far.

"We don't have all the information, but it doesn't seem to me like the improvements really merit moving everyone out for the summer," Evans said. She said the doubt has been echoed by other East Campus residents in a recent flurry of e-mails.

However, Frank said that lead paint and asbestos abatement necessitated the time and the removal of students.

Evans expressed frustration over the issue of the fire alarm system. "We've been through several sessions of that already ... I've heard that the new fire alarm systems at Baker have false alarms all the time, so I hope we'll get something better than that," said Evans. Recent work done on East Campus' alarm systems was in preparation for this



REBECCA LOH—THE TECH  
**Random Hall will be closed this summer for a fire alarm upgrade.**

major upgrade, Nilsson said.

Both Frank and Evans said that East Campus needs new electrical outlets. "Right now we have outlets that accept the third prong but don't actually ground the plug," Evans said.

Although students will not be able to live in the dormitories over the summer, neither orientation nor graduating seniors will be affected.

"They said it'll be done by

August 11. We have to take their word for it. I don't know if they'll let us move in right away, or if we'll have to wait a week," Evans said.

Frank was pleased by concessions made for graduating seniors. "I think the fact that graduating seniors aren't having to move out [early] is very reasonable." She also noted that the administration was working to ensure space for students to store their belongings over the summer.



ANNIE S. CHOI—THE TECH  
**East Campus will also be closed this summer to upgrade both fire safety and electrical systems.**

"They are very willing to make things easy for students," said Frank.

## Summer plans changed at Random

Matthew S. Cain '02, president of Random Hall, said that students were surprised at the news that repairs would take place this summer.

"We knew about the problems with our fire system ... In the fall we were told that repairs were about three years in the future. Last night

our housemaster told us" that they would in fact occur this summer, said Cain.

"In the long term it's a very good thing. The alarms are very bad — an alarm will go off, and someone sleeping one door down won't hear it," said Cain. "In the short run, people are disappointed."

"They're going to try to put as many of us in Bexley as possible, and they're going to try to keep us together as much as possible," Cain said.

However, he said that many Random Hall residents, especially graduating seniors, are now reconsidering their plans. Usually, many residents spend the summer in the dormitory, a trend Cain predicts will slacken this summer.

Although the fire alarm system is the focus of repairs at Random Hall Cain said that the housemaster was attempting to get other scheduled repairs, including electrical system upgrades and replacement of carpets, done at the same time.

Frank Dabek contributed to the reporting of this article.

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# Faculty Approve New Communications Requirement

By Daniel C. Stevenson  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Faculty members overwhelmingly approved a modified motion to implement the new Communication Requirement at Wednesday's faculty meeting.

The faculty also heard about proposed changes to class regulations that limit professors' flexibility on assignments and evening exams, a summary of disciplinary proceedings for the past year, and statistics indicating a continued downward trend in harassment.

The relatively large crowd of 100 people who attended the meeting in Room 10-250 included several undergraduates interested in the Communication Requirement and exam regulation discussions.

The requirement replaces the old Writing Requirement and its Phase 1 and Phase 2 competency tests with a more instructional approach requiring four communications-intensive classes.

The motion as passed calls for the Committee on the Undergraduate Program to develop an implementation plan, to be presented to the faculty by next February.

## Motion clarifies enforcement

The modified motion was offered after members of the Committee on Academic Performance and the Committee on Curriculum voiced concerns over the implementation and monitoring of the requirement.

"We strongly endorse this [modification], in that it will give the faculty time to come up with a better solution" to implementation issues said Sarah L. McDougal '00, chair of the Student Committee on Educational Policy.

Professors Steven R. Lerman '72, chair of the faculty, and Suzanne Flynn, chair of the CUP, supported the development of an implementation plan. In a statement handed out at the meeting, they proposed creating three groups that will manage the phase-out of the existing Writing Requirement, establish criteria for designating CI classes, and draft administration processes for governing the requirement.

Associate Dean Jeffrey A. Meldman offered a poorly received amendment to the modified motion that would have required students to take "essentially" four communications classes. Meldman said he wanted to offer some "wiggle room" to allow for flexibility in the implementation process.

Professor Arthur C. Smith also raised the issue of curriculum flexibility. Smith, chair of the COC and former dean of students, pointed out that the requirement is unique in that it specifies a time sequence of classes (one per year for four years). "We expect a lot of our students," he said. "One way that we help students meet those expectations is to allow flexibility wherever we can."

Undergraduate Association President Matthew L. McGann '00 said that students were also concerned about the flexibility of the implementation. "I would like to see this 'wiggle room' so that students, the CAP, the CUP, and the COC may discuss these issues," he said.

However, most speakers felt that any problems arising during implementation could be handled by the

various committees resulting from the modified motion.

Professors Gene M. Brown and Langley C. Keyes PhD '67, who chaired the group that drafted the requirement and made the original motion, both opposed Meldman's amendment. "What's critical is to get in place this proposal," Keyes said.

## Exam changes proposed

Professor Donald R. Sadoway presented the report of the Faculty Policy Committee's Subcommittee on Exam and Term Regulations, which focused on reorganizing the rules on exam and assignment scheduling.

The proposed changes apply mainly to undergraduate classes and include the following:

- No required academic exercises are allowed from 5 p.m. Friday through 8 a.m. Monday
- Instructors must give students a "clear and complete description" of the required work in the class by the end of the first week of classes (third week for graduate classes)
- Evening exams may not exceed two hours, must start after 7:30 p.m., and may not be held on Mondays.
- A regular class must be cancelled whenever an exam is held outside of class time.

• No assignments can be due two days before, the day of, or for the remainder of the week following an evening exam.

• Special six-hour final exams can be held by permission of the chair of the faculty, but students will have unrestricted use of resources.

*We expect a lot from our students. One of the ways we can help ... is to allow flexibility wherever we can. — Professor Arthur C. Smith*

• No exams can be held after the Friday preceding the start of the reading period.

The full text of the motion can be found on the Web at <http://tute.mit.edu:8001/dept/lib-data/d/archives/facmin/000315/0003c.html>.

The Student Committee on Educational Policy looked favorably on the additional disclosure and violation reporting require-

ments, SCEP Chair McDougal said. However, McDougal added that students would like the rules extended to cover the Independent Activities Period.

The motion to implement the changes will be voted at the April 17 faculty meeting.

## Typical year for misconduct

Dean for Student Life Margaret R. Bates presented the annual report on student disciplinary proceedings. The past year was typical in issues of academic misconduct, Bates said.

One exception was that this year the Committee on Discipline looked at a number of alcohol violations. The COD worked to "establish expectations and precedence of types of action to be taken" in such cases in the future, she said, speaking on behalf of Professor Stephen C. Graves, the committee chair, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Bates also spoke about Graves' request that faculty members who deal with issues of academic dishonesty within the confines of a class also share those incidents with the COD, so that the committee can have a more complete history of any students coming before it.

Professor Emeritus Samuel Jay Keyser presented his annual report on harassment statistics. Less than

100 respondents to faculty and staff surveys said they had witnessed or received a complaint about harassment, continuing a general decline since statistics were first collected in 1993. Most incidents were sexual harassment or general mistreatment, Keyser said.

Keyser reported that more than 1,000 faculty and staff have been trained at his complaint-handling seminars.

Also at the meeting, Vice President and Dean for Research J. David Litster PhD '65 presented an update on the guidelines for licensing and equity ownership. "The idea is not to have hard and fast rules," Litster said, but to provide examples of situations that faculty and staff should try to avoid.

Litster said that the process revision was prompted in part by discussions with the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General. They asked for improved disclosure on research sponsored by the National Science Foundation and Public Health Service, he said.

Associate Provost Philip L. Clay outlined the junior faculty leave policy. The policy, to be phased in over the next three years, would allow faculty to take one semester off, with pay, sometime during their second through sixth year at the Institute.

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## Suspect On Leave

Rape, from Page 1

boys also."

Borghesani refused to comment to a Tech reporter on the pertinence of the bathroom's presence on the site, but his comments to the Herald indicate that he does not consider it to be a mitigating circumstance.

Belson is currently on administrative leave from the Institute. In addition to his duties in the library, Belson recently published a play, *Silent Amidah: A Remembrance*, in conjunction with World AIDS Day.

Belson was awarded a Council

for the Arts grant for another play, *The Jaded Marsyas* and is the producer of *Homophobia in the Media and Society: One Life to Live and Beyond*, an MIT educational outreach video program distributed in association with the Council for Primary and Secondary Education.

He is being defended by Karen Tannenbaum, a public defender in Suffolk County. Tannenbaum refused to comment on the case when reached by telephone yesterday.

MIT officials also refused to comment when reached yesterday.

## POLICE LOG

*The following incidents were reported to the MIT Campus Police between March 2 - 9, 2000. This summary contains most incidents reported to Campus Police but does not include incidents such as: medical shuttles, ambulance transfers, false alarms, generals service calls, etc.*

**March 2:** Memorial Dr. and Audrey St. assist State Police with vehicle accident; Bldg. 35, construction supplies stolen \$1,150; Bldg. W31, campus vending machines broken into, several thousand dollars missing; Hayward St. '88 Mazda stolen; Bldg. W5, check and inquiry; East Lot, check and inquiry of vehicle.

**March 3:** Boston, 1) Delta Upsilon, unwanted guest; 2) Lambda Chi Alpha, party problem; Student Center, check and inquiry; Westgate area, John Naughton of 46 Litchfield St, Brighton, MA, arrested for trespassing; Walker, report of suspicious person, gone upon MIT PD arrival.

**March 4:** Next House, suspicious activity and vandalism to a door; Bldg. 16, suspicious activity, checks out okay; Bldg. E52, suspicious activity; Hayden Library, suspicious person, left area prior to MIT arrival; East Campus, suspicious activity, gone upon MIT PD arrival.

**March 5:** Kresge Lot, vehicle license plate stolen; Tang Hall, annoying mail; Bldg. W59 and W31, suspicious activity; Student Center, 1) suspicious person, trespass warning issued; 2) homeless person assisted to shelter; Bldg. 2, two males arrested for lewd behavior; Bldg. W11, change purse with ID and keys stolen.

**March 6:** Kresge Lot, window smashed, nothing missing; Bldg. 10, suspicious activity; Bldg. 56, check and inquiry of male and trespass warning issued; Memorial Dr. assist State Police with vehicle accident.

**March 7:** New House, 1) domestic problem; 2) noise complaint; Student Center, harassing e-mail; Ashdown, student problem; Bldg. 2, Marc Desrosiers of 4 Longfellow Place #2307, Boston, MA, arrested for lewd and lascivious behavior; Bldg. 56, coat stolen \$100; Bldg. 56, coat stolen \$100; Bldg. E18, construction tool stolen \$400; Bldg. 2, suspicious activity; Next House, laptop computer and sneakers stolen \$940; Bldg. E52, assault between a student and an employee.

**March 8:** Bldg. E51, report of backpack stolen, same had been picked up for safe keeping by a friend; Westgate, report of suspicious person, gone upon MIT PD arrival; Bldg. E18, suspicious activity; Bldg's. 2, 4 & W32, check and inquiry, trespass warnings issued; Amherst Alley by Next House, report of woman screaming, no cause found.

**March 9:** East Lot, suspicious activity; DuPont, wallet stolen \$12; Boston, Lambda Chi Alpha, noise complaint; Bldg. 68, report of skate boarders; rear of 275 Lot, check and inquiry; MacGregor, report of suspicious person, same issued trespass warning; Bldg. 2, check and inquiry, trespass warning issued.

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# MIT Students Doubt Drinking Survey's Conclusions

Drinking, from Page 1

'party.'"

## Students react to report

MIT students have reacted in different ways to the report. Theta Delta Chi brother Darien B. Crane '03 said, "Yes there is binge drinking, but that's meaningless because different people experience the effects of alcohol in different ways."

Gina M. Pelleriti '03, a sister of Alpha Chi Omega, said, "There is a lot of binge drinking that occurs, both in the dorms and in the FSILG's, but we just can't just focus on one more than the other. It's just that in dorms it's easier to hide drinking because they're not the typical places to have public parties."

MIT offers many resources for those who have a binge drinking

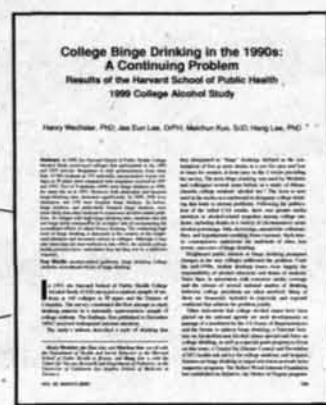
problem, said Mark A. Goldstein, Chief of Pediatric and Student Health. The most preferred path is to go through a primary-care physician and through them be referred to a psychiatrist in mental health services. Those with a binge drinking problem also have the option of seeing a social worker or psychiatrist who deals specifically with the treatment of substance abuse.

This is the third report of the College Alcohol Study begun in 1993. Wechsler shared authorship of the report with Jae Eun Lee, Meichun Kuo, and Hang Lee. The report surveys 119 four-year colleges; MIT did not participate in the survey. The report's definition of binge drinking is the consumption of five or more drinks in a row for men and four or more for women, at least once in a two week period.

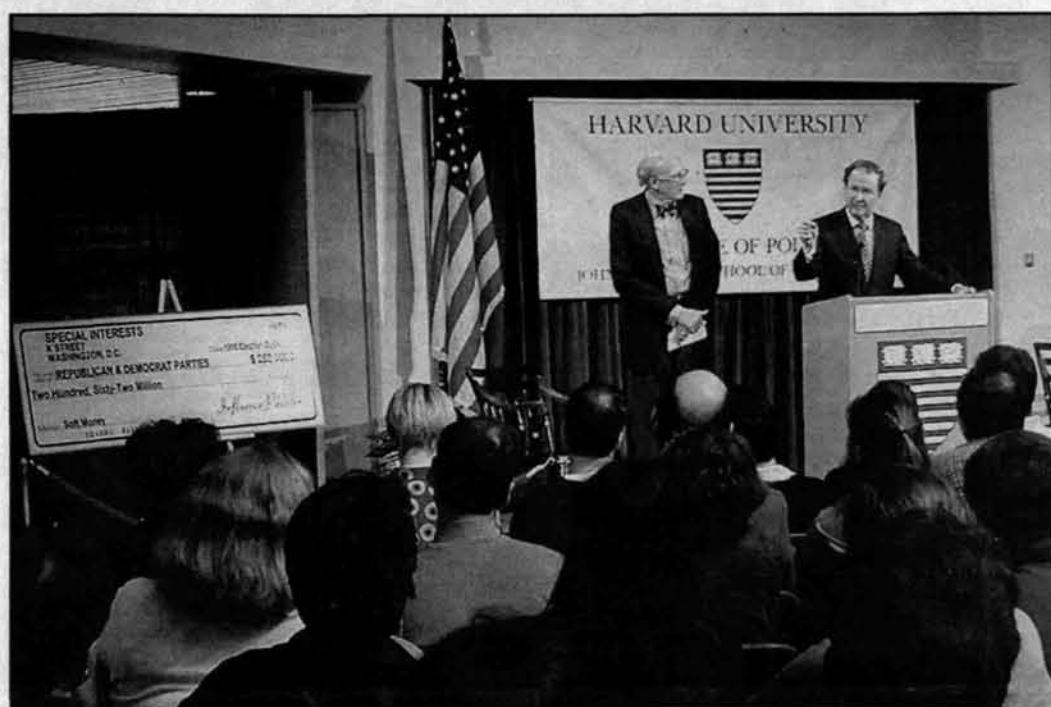
*Heavy or episodic binge drinking was defined as the consumption of at least five drinks in a row for men or four drinks in a row for women...*

*Although no change occurred in the overall binge-drinking rate, the nature of drinking among students who drink has become more extreme ...*

*Among the students most likely to binge drink were fraternity or sorority members ... and students who were White, male, and were binge drinkers in high school.*



*Finally, there are no magic solutions ... Colleges differ in the roles that factors, such as fraternities, intercollegiate athletics, and drinking traditions play on campus ...*



Reform Party presidential candidate Patrick J. Buchanan points to a check representing the need for campaign finance reform as former Senator Alan K. Simpson (R-WY) looks on. In remarks to an antagonistic Harvard audience yesterday, Buchanan unveiled proposals to drastically change campaign contribution laws.

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Proof of major and standing will be required at the interview.

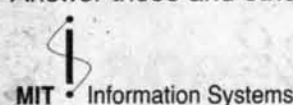
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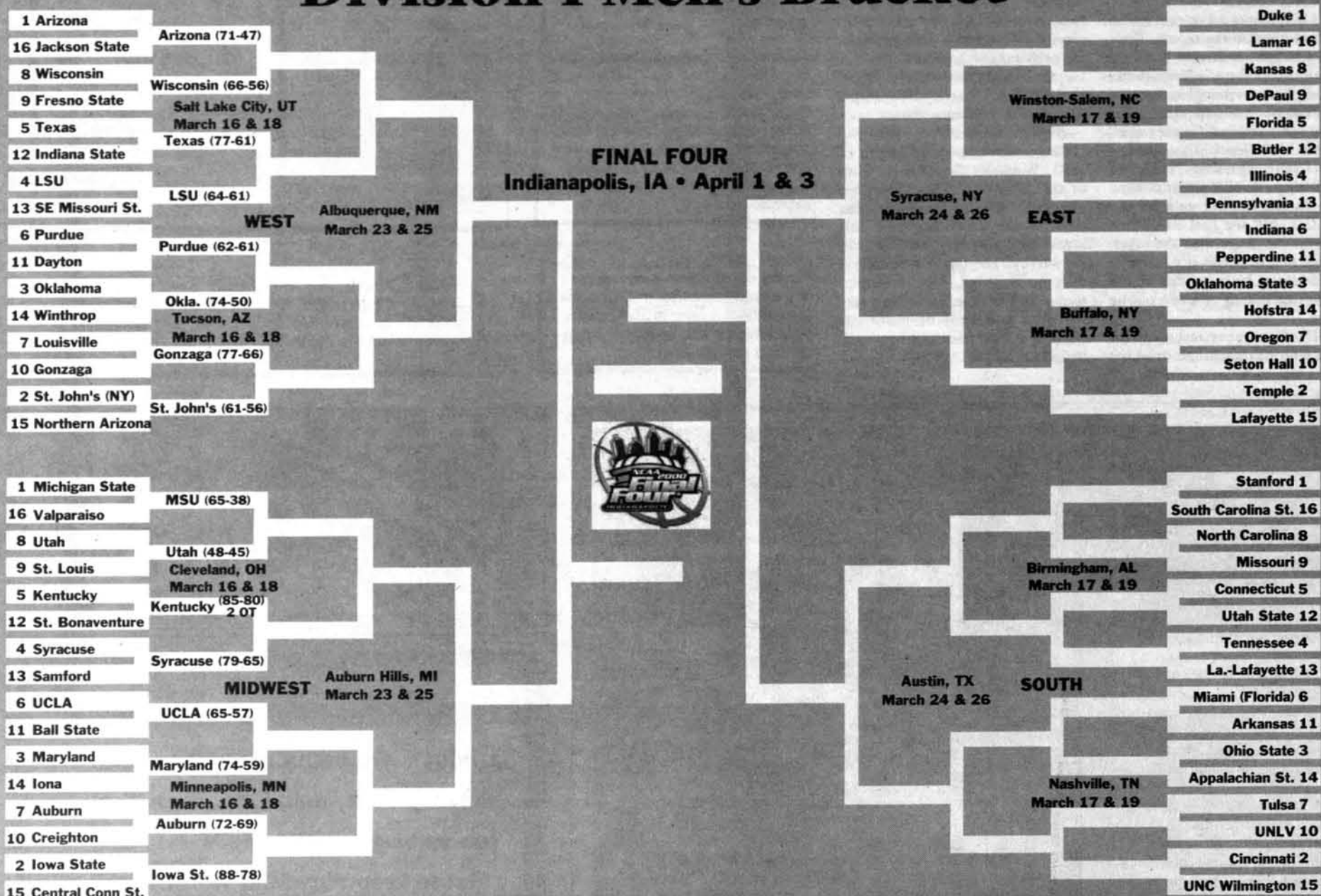
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# Grayton Will Carry Indiana over Pepperdine Waves

NCAA Picks, from Page 24

American. If Guyton plays up to his potential, Indiana should survive this first round scare, but if he gets erratic, it could be fun watching the ensuing chair-throwing competition that Bobby Knight reigns supreme in. I'm going with Indiana, but this game has the potential to become a real thriller.

Speaking of thrillers, Oregon and Seton Hall should provide some nice up-and-down the court action. Both teams like to run, but Seton Hall has not beaten a high-caliber team since February 7th. They will make an early exit, facing the West Coast's best-kept secret in Oregon. Oregon finished third in the surprisingly tough PAC-10, and they should put on a good show with their explosive offense.

Once again, the eight-nine matchup should be a good one. Perennial power Kansas had a sub-par season by Jayhawk standards, but that is to be expected with a starting line-up featuring three freshmen. DePaul's starting five features four freshmen, including one of the nation's premier players in Quentin Richardson. In a close game, teams look to their stars to pull them through, and that is exactly what Richardson will do for his Blue Demons. Big-time players bring it all to the table come March, and Richardson is definitely a big-time player.

Things get even more interesting in the East in the second round, with match-ups like the Blue Devils vs. the Blue Demons and Florida, Lon Kruger's old team, facing Illinois, Lon Kruger's current team. Should Duke face DePaul in the second round, this will be the second time they meet this year. DePaul played the Dukies to a thrilling one point overtime loss in Cameron back in December. That was before Williams and Boozer came on for Duke though. In their second meeting, look for Duke to readily handle the Blue Demons.

I really like our next match-up, pitting Illinois against Florida. Florida deserves a higher seed than they received, but regardless, Illinois is peaking right now and I look for the Fighting Illini to advance to the Sweet Sixteen.

Whether Oklahoma State plays Indiana or Pepperdine, the Cowboys have too much depth and experience for either opponent. Indiana would keep it close for a while, but look for Oklahoma State to pull away and march onto the Carrier Dome in Syracuse, New York. There they should face Temple. Temple is always a concern for teams come tournament time due to Jon Chaney's great match-up zone defense, but now Temple is just downright lethal. They have a strong offense to compliment impenetrable their defense. Pepe Sanchez is a superstar at the point, and his team was 25-2 with him on the floor. Oregon likes to run, but trying to run against Chaney's Owls is almost unheard of, so look for Temple to control this game and the berth to the Sweet Sixteen.

The regional final should be a dandy, featuring Duke and Temple. Give Mike Krzyzewski four days to prepare for Illinois, and Duke should not have too much trouble beating the Fighting Illini. Illinois has been hot as of late, but their two losses in the past fifteen games were to two high caliber teams in Michigan State and Ohio State. Duke is right on par

with these teams, so look for Illinois' run to stop here. Temple will control the tempo and the game.

The experts are split on the Duke Temple match-up, and I am not totally sure myself. Coach K's blend of young upstart freshmen combined with the experience of Battier and Carrawell, or the more experienced Temple Owls who combine a torrid defense (teams shot 36 percent against them this year) along with a pretty strong offense led by Pepe Sanchez. This game could go either way, but I'm sticking with my heart and the Duke Blue Devils.

## The south region

Stanford is clearly the favorite in this region. Match-up wise, their most difficult game may be in the Sweet Sixteen where they are likely to either face Tennessee or the defending national champion Connecticut Huskies. The top five seeds in this region all should get through the first round basically unharmed.

The South region provides for another interesting six-eleven match-up. Miami has played well all season, finishing 13-3 in the tough Big

East. Arkansas has been hot late, as Nolan Richardson led the Razorbacks and their "40 minutes of hell" attack to four straight victories in the SEC tournament. I see Arkansas having a great opportunity to pull the upset, but Miami has been playing too tough all season to let a surging Arkansas team get the best of them.

Anybody who watched ESPN's tournament special knows what Dick Vitale thinks of UNLV's bid to the NCAA tournament: he ripped into the NCAA tournament selection chairman Craig Thompson for allowing UNLV into the tournament. This commentary will drive UNLV to prove they belong; and prove themselves they will.

Many analysts see Tulsa as the surprise team in this part of the bracket, but Tulsa had one nemesis all year, Fresno State. UNLV is very similar to Fresno State in style and should give Tulsa the same trouble. I see an early exit for the Golden Hurricanes. Until they can learn how to stop the high-octane, run-and-gun offense, they will not advance in this year's tournament.

Lastly we see North Carolina

facing the upstart Missouri Tigers. Neither team had very stellar years. Mizzou is just happy to be invited with their 2-7 record against ranked opponents. Thankfully for Missouri, the Tar Heels are not ranked. They have a lot of talent on this young squad, and they also have a key component in the NCAA tournament: an experienced Ed Cota. Look for him to lead the youthful Tar Heels past Mizzou in the first round.

## South - second round


North Carolina will be bounced by the powerful Cardinal team. The Connecticut-Tennessee match will feature lots of great ball. Of the two teams though, Connecticut is the better-prepared team for this match-up. I look for Jim Calhoun to regroup his team and prepare them for a strong March run.

It is the bottom half of the bracket where I see a melee of upsets occurring. Yes, both Ohio State and Cincinnati are more talented than their opponents are, but in March anything can happen. Both UNLV and Miami have shown they have the ability to win and win big, and I

think both teams have the capability of pulling the upset. While UNLV is out to prove that they belong, Miami was strong in the Big East.

Stanford and Connecticut is a colossal match-up. Stanford is the only number one seed in the draw Connecticut has not played. They have too much going for them in this match, certainly too much for Connecticut. James Voskuhl cannot stop Mark Madsen, he can only hope to contain him, and I don't even think he can do that without fouling out quickly. Look for Stanford to win by somewhere between ten and twenty.

The other side of the bracket features a six and ten seed. If this match-up does indeed pan-out, I have to believe that UNLV's run ends here. Miami has proven that they can play with the big boys, and has the type of defense that can slow-down the Runnin' Rebels. This then leaves the Hurricanes the daunting task of trying to stop the Stanford. It can be done, but a team needs size to do it, something that Miami does not have much of. Look for Stanford to enter the Final Four without having been challenged much at all.



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## Solution to Crossword

from page 15

A	H	E	M	R	O	T	O	R	W	R	I	T
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## SPORTS

## Sabres Climb To New Heights At Regional

### Women's Squad Will Send Three to NCAAs

By Phillip W. Miller

TEAM MEMBER

The MIT women's sabre was the most deadly weapon at the Northeastern Regionals. On the strips, the deadliest blades belong to Regional Champion Caroline Purcell '02. Purcell, along with two other Engineers finished in the top seven to qualify for NCAA Nationals this weekend at Stanford.

Fresh off her IFA title the week before, Purcell again showed her skill by winning the women's sabre competition with a barraging victory over Marisa Mustilli of St. John's (NY). Purcell is currently ranked eighth in the country, and won the 1999 Junior Pan Am Games in Brazil. This will be her first trip to NCAA Nationals, only because this is the first year that women's Sabre is a NCAA sport.

While Caroline was the anchor of the women's sabre squad, she was not their only strength. After a rough time in the round of fifteen, Caprice Gray '00 squeaked into the finals. However, in finals competition she awoke with a vengeance, finishing fifth overall and earning her own spot at Stanford. Gray finished third in the New England Conference and won the 1999 Bay State Games.

Strong and steady, Jen McKeehan '01 rounded out the sabrists with a 7th place finish overall, despite facing Purcell in nearly every pool. Unfortunately for Jen, the NCAA limits a team to sending only two competitors per weapon, but she certainly will be fired up for her chance next season.

The Men's Sabre squad also built upon its strong season last Saturday, with Phil Miller '01 earning his spot at Stanford. Ranked tenth in the seeding brackets, Miller showed flashes of brilliance and upset a number of higher ranked opponents. He finished eighth overall. Miller makes his first trip to

NCAAs this weekend. He placed seventh at IFAs last year and was fifth in New England this year.

Neal Devaraj '02 continued his rapid ascendancy to one of the best on the NCAA circuit by placing an impressive 9th in a tough field. Devaraj, who started fencing only when he got to MIT, has gotten better with every meet and beat a number of more experienced fencers to earn his spot as an alternate for Nationals.

Ranked 17th in the Junior standings in Britain before coming to MIT, Oliver Chadwick '02 also claimed a spot as an alternate for men's foil. Chadwick had a phenomenal year as he beat many of the best nationwide en route to a fourth seed at Regionals.

Another bright spot came from a relatively new epeeist, Cheng Pei '03. Pei, who started

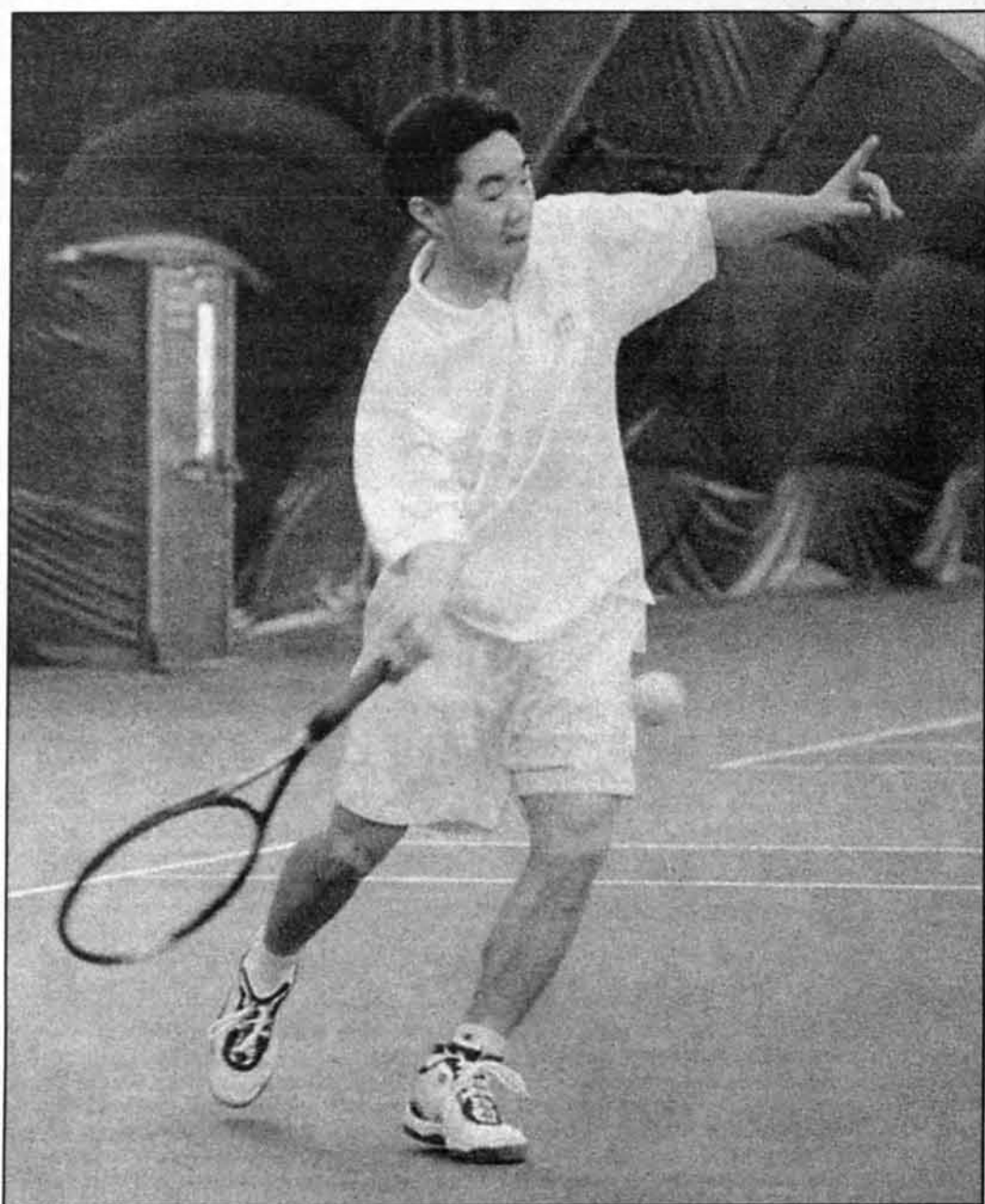
fencing only last September, claimed a victory over the Columbia A strip on his way to a 2-2 record in his first pool. Cheng finished a heart breaking 16th, missing the cut by two touches.

In addition Sylvia Daniszewska '00 capped her collegiate career with one of her strongest performances to finish 13th in women's epee. Women's Captain Dianne Allen '01 finished 13th in the foil field.

"I think this demonstrates the strength of our program," said Coach Jarek Koniusz.

*"Unlike some other schools, our experienced freshmen get better while they're here, and those who start here and work hard have a chance to grow into some of the best in the country."*

— Coach Jarek Koniusz



Eric L. Chen '00 returns the ball in a tennis match against Boston College Tuesday. MIT bested BC 5-2.

MIODRAG CIRKOVIC—THE TECH

## Alberi Is 15th in 100-Backstroke

### Women's Nordic Skiing Team Wins U.S. Collegiate Skiing Title

By Ming-Tai Huh

SPORTS EDITOR

During the past weekend, swimmer Kirsten Alberi earned two points for MIT at the D-III NCAA tournament at Emory University. She placed fifteenth out of the 50 qualified swimmers. Among the spectator stands, Alberi's father made the trip to

Georgia from Maine to see his daughter race. The national finish combined with three school records completes a terrific freshman year. "This was a learning year for me, I aim to swim faster and make national finals next year."

#### Nordic skiing wins Championship

The nordic women's team of Captain Jessica M. Kleiss '00, Teresa M. Hung '02, and freshman Jessica Baker took first place in the

U.S. Collegiate Skiing Championships held at Bretton Woods, MA last weekend. In the classic race, MIT started eight points behind leader Whitman College in second place. However, the skate race proved to be MIT's specialty when Kleiss won the event and gave MIT the lead by three points. The final event, team relay, determined the champion. The engineers won the event and took this year's skiing title.

## Pheiffer Reveals Picks

### Stanford, Duke Will Roll into Final Four

By Rory Pheiffer

Well, one day down, and many of you are probably saying to yourselves that after one day you are still in good contention to win your pool this year. Then again, maybe you are already out of it, but unless you picked Valpo as your sleeper, my guess is you are not too bad off after day one. The fun is only beginning though. Although this analysis is a day late for most of you who had to turn in your brackets by Thursday, let's take some time to check out the other half of the field.

#### The East Region

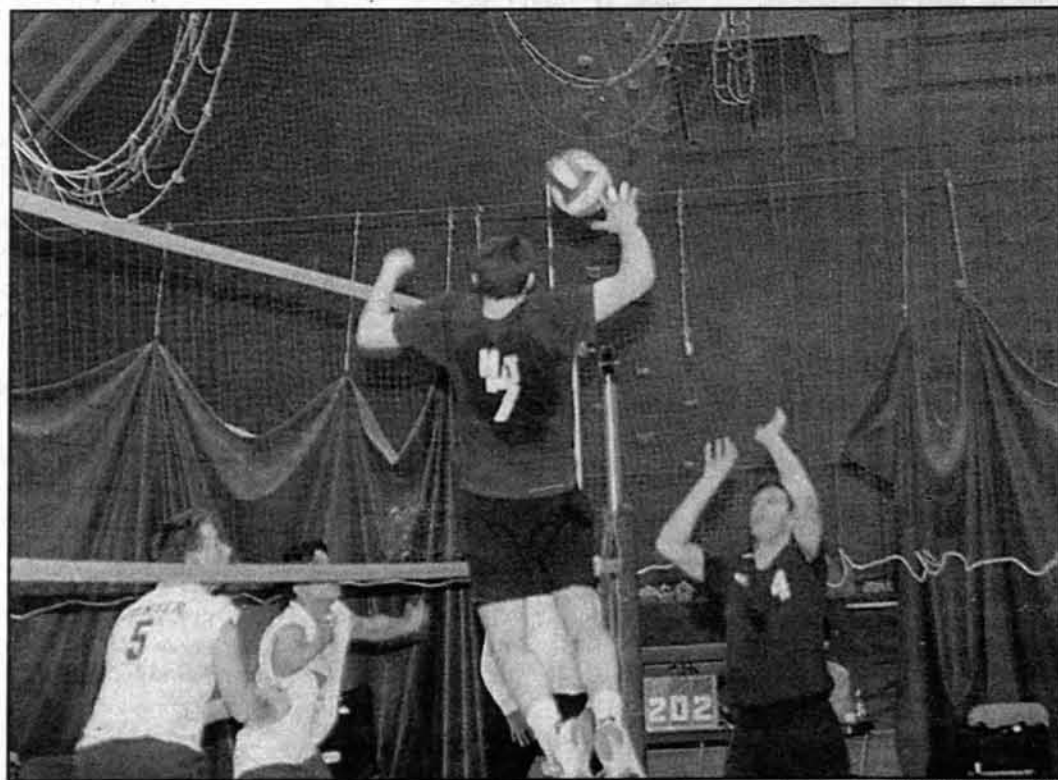
The East region is headlined with my personal favorite the Duke Blue Devils, but there are some tough teams lurking in the draw for the young Blue Devils, teams like Oklahoma State, Illinois, Florida, and every team's worst nightmare, the Temple Owls. There are also some very good first round matchups in this region. Duke, Temple, and Oklahoma State should all cruise in their first games. The same

goes for the Fighting Illini. Penn may have Michael Jordan, but unfortunately for them he is not even related to his Airness.

I am especially high on Illinois now that last year's Big Ten Freshman of the Year Corey Bradford has caught fire. As long as he keeps up his level of play there is no telling what Illinois is capable of. They will likely clash with Florida in the second round, seeing as Florida should not have any trouble with Butler. Florida was hovering close to the top ten all year so Butler should not provide too difficult a challenge. Remember that Butler has not played a quality opponent in fifteen games either.

The six versus eleven seed match-up in this bracket has upset written all over it. The Pepperdine Waves have a tenacious defense that have the potential to give the inconsistent Hoosiers a tough time. As for Indiana, Bobby Knight is a great coach, and A.J. Guyton is an All-

NCAA Picks, Page 23



Mark Histed G hits the ball over the heads of Hunter College's front line during Sunday's game in DuPont. The Engineers shut out Hunter 3-0.

WENDY GU—THE TECH